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# The China Mail

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HONG KONG, MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1930.

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## UNOFFICIALS ASSESSMENT INCREASE CRITICISED

### POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES

### HOPE THAT HIGHER TAXATION MAY BE TEMPORARY.

### GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

The Budget proposals for the year 1931 were adopted at a meeting of the Legislative Council this morning, after considerable discussion, in which Unofficial members gave in detail their respective objections to specific taxes and assessments.

The tone of the speeches throughout expressed confidence in His Excellency the Governor and his officials, and promised full support to the measures proposed to be put into effect. Unofficial members, however, were unanimous in expressing the hope that the present assessments might be only temporary, and should be amended so soon as the financial position of the Colony warranted it.

The hope was also expressed that at no time should the opportunity be lost to explore the possibilities of alternate schemes for raising revenue.

### ECONOMY A VITAL QUESTION.

The Governor, together with the Colonial Secretary, replying to various points raised during the discussion, made it clear that the question of economy was paramount. His Excellency intimated that the increases in assessment had been made with the greatest reluctance, and only after prolonged consideration had shown them to be absolutely essential to the well-being of the Colony.

**Military Contribution.**  
His Excellency, in the course of his reply, referring to a point raised by Dr. Kotewall, said there was little likelihood of any reduction in the Military Contribution, but the whole discussion on the point would come before the Secretary of State.

Regarding other alternatives, His Excellency was of opinion that a Betting Tax, whilst it had points worthy of consideration, was not immediately feasible. The proposed tax on jewellery and luxuries he considered it would be very difficult, if not almost impossible, to enforce, whilst a tax on buses and ferries would only serve to increase the cost of essential services. Assessment, he added, seemed a fair form of taxation in a Colony where there is no Income Tax.

His Excellency was of opinion that the taxes on shipping would not inflict any undue hardship, the amount being spread over a large number of ships, many of them owned by companies working on a sterling basis.

**Salaries Conversion Basis.**  
With regard to the question of sterling salaries of Government officials, the Governor announced that he was prepared to agree to suggestions regarding the basis of conversion. He was prepared to accept that they be converted as to one half at the current rate, and the balance at 1/6 to the dollar, when exchange fell below the figure. This would mean a reduction of \$383,888, as compared with the estimate in the Budget of 1/4 to the dollar. He thought that the Secretary of State might see his way to accept the amendment, even though it was a little late in the day to make changes.

**Reforms in Prospect.**  
His Excellency also stated that he intended to overhaul the whole of the educational system, and proposed to seek the advice of the Education Board on the subject. The question of social hygiene, in which Hong Kong was very backward, would also come under consideration. It had also been a great disappointment that he had had to defer the provision of a new wing to Kowloon Hospital, but the important work in connection with the Maternity Home must be carried on.

**Plea for Local Men.**  
The Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow urged that work on the Shing Mun Reservoir be pushed on with all possible speed, whilst the Hon. Dr. Kotewall pleaded the cause of water consumers in the Western District.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga expressed the opinion that the incidence of the present taxation would fall unfairly upon the shoulders of the low-salaried men. He also made a suggestion that companies be affected by the

## DEBATE BUDGET

hand, there is one important document which we have missed this year. It is the abstract showing the differences between the approved Estimates of Expenditure for 1930 and the Estimates of Expenditure for 1931. For about twenty-three years, except for one or two years during the Great War, this abstract has invariably been presented with the Estimates. It is a very useful document in that it not only accounts for the increases and decreases in the expenditure under each head, but also shows such differences in total under the title 'Recapitulation.' For instance, the abstract presented last year enabled us to tell at a glance how much of the total increase in Personal Emoluments was due to the creation of new posts, how much to stipulated increments, and how much to other emoluments, just as it enabled us to find out how much saving was to be effected by the abolition of posts, how much by reductions due to new appointments, and how much by other adjustments. This year, in the absence of such a statement, we have not been able to ascertain these important facts, though it is more necessary now than in previous years, for the public to know how the total of Personal Emoluments is made up, especially what total increase is entailed by the revision of salaries.

The scantiness of the footnotes was commented upon by the Unofficials last year, and the then Colonial Secretary promised to repair the omission in future Estimates. This has been done in the Estimates of Expenditure, but in the Estimates of Revenue there is not a single explanatory note to account for the increases or decreases shown therein. The Hon. Colonial Secretary in his speech, and the Hon. Colonial Treasurer in his Memorandum, gave some explanations, but they covered only a few selected sub-heads, leaving unexplained innumerable items showing differences between the Estimates for 1930 and the Estimates for 1931.

**Increased Taxation.**  
The proposed augmentation of existing taxes and the imposition of new taxes, though unfortunate in these hard times, seem to us unavoidable, when we consider that the Colony is at present living to an appreciable extent on its capital, and that resort has been made, and will have to be made, to public loans to finance certain public works of urgent importance. But while we speak of new taxation as being unavoidable, it must not be thought that we agree with the Government that the Colony is well off in the matter of taxation. If the Colony is not as heavily taxed as some other colonies, it should be remembered that the cost of living in Hong Kong is higher than that of most places in and out of China. But whether our reasoning is sound or not, the additional taxation is very unfortunate, coming as it does at a time when the Colony is suffering from a serious depression of trade, with little prospect of an early revival.

I will now proceed to examine individual items of the Estimates of Revenue.

**Public School Fees.**  
On page 9 we find that the vote 'Public School Fees' shows an increase of \$22,000. Although, when last year's Estimates were before the Council, the Hon. Sir Henry Pollock on behalf of the Unofficial members asked the Government to consider whether such fees might

(Continued on Page 11.)

### Hon. Mr. J. Owen-Hughes.

"Overwhelmed by Official Majority."

Sir,—The Hon. senior Unofficial member in the address we have just listened to has very ably reviewed the speech of the Hon. Colonial Secretary in introducing the Estimates for 1931, and has presented the joint views of the Unofficial members to this Council, but as he has already indicated, his colleagues will as customary make their own observations.

As senior of the European members present, it is my privilege now to make some further observations.

I do not propose to address the Council at great length, as my colleagues will also desire to take part in the discussion. I would like first of all to associate myself and my European colleagues in the reference made by the Hon. senior Unofficial member to this, Your Excellency's first Budget, and further, if I may be permitted, to express our admiration of the manner in which you have dealt with the many important matters that have been brought before you since assuming the duties of your high office.

On the first occasion of your presiding over this Council just four months ago, my unofficial colleagues and I did our utmost to persuade the Government to cut its coat according to the cloth available, and pleaded for the appointment of a Committee to consider whether the Colony could afford the elaborate garment recommended by the Salaries Commission in view of the unprecedented fall in the value of the dollar. Our arguments and pleadings were of no avail against the Official majority vote, nor was the almost unanimous voice of public opinion behind us allowed to weigh in the balance, and we were overwhelmed.

The "Account" is now rendered, and a bill for no less than \$9,421,405 for Personal Emoluments is presented for payment, on account of 1930, whilst it is estimated that under this heading alone, no less than \$12,854,727 for 1931 has now to be budgeted for at the very uncertain Exchange figure of 1/4d.

**The First Duty.**

It is a first duty of Government to balance its Budget for the coming year, and we are asked to-day to approve the method by which it is proposed to do so, a most difficult task as all must admit.

No good purpose can be achieved by making more reference than is absolutely necessary to what has been done in the past in respect of Salaries; but the result of the revision looks so large on every page of the Draft Estimates for 1931 that reference to them cannot well be avoided, nor to the astounding increase in charges occasioned by the unprecedented fall in Exchange. The Hon. Colonial Secretary at the outset of his

speech refers to the above two considerations as seriously influencing the Government in their consideration of the Budget. In percentage as compared with last year's heading, the figures disclose the following increases:

	1931.	\$	£	s.
His Excellency the Governor	155,890	52,278	50.4	
Cadet Service	566,221	203,827	56.15	
Senior Clerical & Accounting Staff	334,113	92,086	38.	
Junior Clerical Service	916,050	162,155	21.6	
Col. Secretary's Dept. & Legislature	60,625	18,716	29.24	
Secretariat for Chinese Affairs	19,629	4,249	27.6	
Treasury	54,635	38,106	230.5	
Audit Department	72,604	22,608	45.22	
District Office, North	24,317	893	3.81	
District Office, South	12,340	1,076	8.	
Post Office	408,405	99,670	82.20	
Wireless Telegraph Services	149,561	29,253	24.23	
Imports and Exports Office	871,194	4,753	5.	
Harbour Department	1,164,894	168,052	16.87	
Air Services	154,663	46,512	23.13	
Royal Observatory	71,012	35,910	91.4	
Fire Brigade	826,479	54,085	14.21	
Supreme Court	179,854	19,784	12.93	
Attorney General	47,225	12,498	36.	
Crown Solicitor's Office	50,822	15,404	44.1	
Official Receiver	18,681	4,506	34.76	
Land Office	36,754	11,610	46.17	
Magistracy, Hong Kong	2,899	110	4.5	
Magistracy, Kowloon	2,150	72	25.55	
Police Force	2,710,962	651,727	21.8	
Prisons Department	713,869	127,886	19.6	
Medical Department	1,446,585	236,974	20.55	
Sanitary Department	954,276	162,713	11.24	
Botanical & Forestry Department	110,587	12,091	28.89	
Education Department	1,739,708	390,017	23.2	
Public Works Department	2,038,928	384,451	14.06	
Public Works, Recurrent	1,536,160	261,600	34.09	
Public Works, Extraordinary	2,500,000	1,840,750	23.26	
Kowloon-Canton Railway	947,547	287,882	8.85	
Volunteer Defence Corps	108,660	4,163	10.08	
Miscellaneous Services	1,490,955	138,560	27.83	
Charitable Services	142,295	30,591	34.5	
Pensions	1,225,000	315,000		

(Continued on Page 11.)

### HON. MR. PATERSON.

#### Very Nervous as to Future.

Sir,—Mr. Mackie has dealt very completely with the question of shipping. I have really very little to add except that shipping, especially coastal shipping, is going through a very serious time. A great deal of money has been lost recently, and we continue to lose money. I am, therefore, very nervous as to the future of shipping. I therefore hope that if a reduction be possible it will be made.

It can be said, of course, that the present taxes do not amount to a great sum. They may be small "straws," but they are straws which may break the camel's back.

### Hon. Mr. C. G. Mackie.

Sir,—I wish to associate myself with the remarks made by hon. friends, the senior Unofficial member, Sir Shou-son Chow, and Mr. Owen-Hughes, who have presented a very fair criticism of the Budget and the manner in which it is proposed to meet the heavy estimated expenditure.

The levies to be imposed are in most cases reasonable but the suggested taxes on shipping, in the form of increased light dues and hire of buoys are, I consider, wrong in principle. This form of taxation has been the subject of several debates in this Chamber in the past and if one can judge from the records of the meetings the Official attitude has been that shipping should only be taxed for specific purposes from which a direct benefit is obtained. In the present instance this can scarcely be put forward as an argument in favour of the suggested levies.

**Importance of Shipping.**  
Hong Kong owes its very existence to shipping, and its prosperity has been largely built up from the benefits derived from the advantages obtaining to a free port. This great asset should be maintained as far as possible at all costs.

Quite apart from the objections to taxing shipping in order to augment local revenue it must be admitted by all that this particular trade is passing through a very hard time and it is only by the most rigid economy that many companies are able to carry on.

If it can possibly be done I would like to see the proposed taxes withdrawn. Failing that, Sir, I hope some assurance can be given that they will be considered in the nature of a temporary levy only and will be removed when the finances of the Colony are on a healthier basis.

(Continued on Page 4.)

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Pensions	1,225,000	315,000		

(Continued on Page 11.)

### Hon. Dr. Kotewall.

Sir,—It is my privilege to present the views of the Chinese members of this Council on the Budget. The most important problem which engages the attention of the Council at this moment is how to find money to meet the increased expenditure for the coming year. The Government has proposed the imposition of fresh taxation in certain forms, among which is an increase of four per cent. in the Assessed Taxes, which, it is estimated, will yield an additional \$1,415,600.

This particular impost has caused grave concern among the Chinese who constitute about 95 per cent. of the taxpayers. Representations have been made to the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and to us by public bodies as well as by individuals, urging us to request the Government not to increase this item of revenue.

On the 13th of this month a very largely attended meeting of the General Committee of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce was held, when the matter was discussed at great length, and the opinion was expressed that in view of the bad times, when cost of living is very high and the volume of trade abnormally low, any increase in the Rates would have an immediate reaction on the prosperity of the Colony. Means of raising revenue other than an increase in the Rates were suggested, such as the taxing of race sweepstakes, the taxing of luxuries including jewellery and other articles of personal adornment, the letting out of the ferry and bus services to public tender, the creation of a monopoly in pawnshops, the taxing of electricity and gas, and the increasing of the price of prepared opium sold by the Government.

A resolution embodying the first three suggestions was unanimously carried; as was a resolution expressing the opinion of the Chamber that the amount now payable for Military Contribution is excessive, and that representations should be made to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to having the percentage reduced.

In addition to the suggestions put forward by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, another has been made directly to my Chinese colleagues and myself, namely, the imposition of a tax—estimated to yield about \$400,000 annually—on meals taken in restaurants and eating houses; the tax would be levied on meals costing over 50 cents a head, so that the poor would not be affected. Such a tax already exists in Canton, and is said to yield a large revenue to the Government of Kwongtung.

The proposal to tax race sweepstakes has met with general approval, for it would entail no hardship on anybody, while it would yield a substantial revenue and would be easy to collect.

It has been suggested that a tax on luxuries would also present no difficulty in collection, as the shops could include the tax in the bill of cost.

It is recognised that nothing can be done with the ferry and bus services until the existing concessions have expired.

We have been reminded that a monopoly in pawnshops existed about thirty years ago in Hong Kong, and that such a monopoly still exists in the Straits Settlements, where the system has been working satisfactorily.

Very few are in favour of raising the price of prepared opium, for such a step would encourage smuggling.

The suggestion of levying a tax on electricity and gas has received much favour in that it is considered to be taxation that would be most evenly distributed and would cause the least inconvenience to all concerned. It is true that cheap electricity and gas are no less necessary than cheap rental, but effects so grievous as are expected to follow an increase in the Assessed Taxes would not follow a tax on electricity and gas, although in both cases—cost of living would thereby be increased. Here it is a case of choosing the lesser of two evils. We have been assured that the interests of the electric and gas companies would not suffer because of the tax, which it is suggested should be one cent per unit, at which rate the tax is expected to bring in half a million dollars at least.

These, then, are the views expressed by the advocates of the various alternative schemes. We have not had time to examine them with the care which the importance

(Continued on Page 11.)

### Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga.

Your Excellency,—The comments I am about to address to the Council on the Budget and the Honourable the Colonial Secretary's speech thereon, represent partly the expression of my own views and partly those of residents whom I have consulted. They are men who take an intelligent interest in civic affairs and on whose opinions I attach much weight.

In all circles and among all sections of the community that part of the Colonial Secretary's speech that has aroused most discussion is the one relating to fresh taxation. It is because in one form or another all pockets—with notable exceptions—are going to be taxed.

Regarding the proposed new taxation, it has been asserted on the part of the Government that it is desired to ensure that the incidence of the new taxes will be fairly borne by the Colony, and the Colonial Secretary trusted that the members of this Council would agree that the Government's proposals should be adjudged equitable. The Colonial Secretary's hope applies with special reference to the augmentation of the general assessment rate by four per cent. The Honourable Spokesman for the Government regards this as "the fairest in its incidence of all forms of direct taxation."

I trust I shall not be misinterpreted in my criticism of the assertion when I question the fairness of the incidence of this taxation. The question of its fairness is arguable. It is not difficult to establish that, in the circumstances obtaining in the Colony at present, this form of direct taxation does not operate fairly at all.

I am not prompted by meanness or ungraciousness to a fairly large body of residents composing the administrative body of this Colony when I venture the statement that the conclusion is irresistible that the highest placed members of the Civil Service of Hong Kong escape taxation entirely when it is a question of an additional assessment rate being levied. I fail to see how the fairness claim can be defended when a \$40 clerk has to pay his 4 per cent. on the rental of his poor flat and the humblest among the population, whose daily wage is reckoned in cents, has to contribute his quota of the same tribute on the value of the cubicle he occupies overnight.

I am not attempting to dispute the wisdom or the expediency of comfortably housing the civil servants of the Colony. That policy is sound and commendable. No great effort, however, is required to demonstrate how those employees of Government who occupy their houses rent-free will go "scot-free" when additional revenue is proposed to be raised out of house-rent.

Similarly, it can be shown that those members of the community, who represent the city magnates of this Colony, and who occupy palatial residences free of rent, also escape the proposed form of contribution towards the Colony's increased expenditure when more revenue is sought out of the House Tax.

It is, therefore, seen that those best able to pay are just those who can look on complacently while their less favoured brethren have to contribute their quota for the larger administrative expenditure for which the Bill now before the Council confers legislative authority.

It should not be beyond the ingenuity of Government to ascertain the assessed value of the premises occupied by those enjoying the privilege of rent-free houses. If this privileged class could be—as they should be—made to contribute their share of the four per cent. additional rate, then, and only then, could the claim for equity for this form of taxation be substantiated.

We are well aware that a Retrenchment Commission is assiduously pursuing its investigations into the increasing cost of operating the Colony's administrative machinery. This fact does not preclude attention being drawn to the very high cost of transporting Government servants to and from the Colony. The fact is beyond dispute that

(Continued on Page 3.)



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**CONFLICT IMMINENT**

The delegates to the Conference were the guests of the War Office to-day, and were taken on an impressive demonstration of the mechanical progress of armaments.—Reuter.

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have been nothing short of a crime for me. I have, rather, when I reached the age of 60, because I have accomplished more during the last 20 years of my life than I did before I reached my 60th birthday. I was into the world for a purpose that was not to loaf and spend time in so-called pleasure; I

after sleeping on it I cabled to send a ship over for 500 tons of copra. The amount now being paid out in the Islands for copra exceeds 200,000 dollars. (Applause.)

"Never Say Die."

Captain Dollar then went into detail some of his other adventures, including the capture of a German U-boat.

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**Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga.**

(Continued from Page 1.)

this very subject has been exercising the Directorate of certain public companies in Hong Kong with the object of instituting drastic economy and so that what was once conceded as a privilege in the heyday of the Colony's prosperity may not be perpetuated into an extension of that privilege to the point of economic unsoundness.

The cost of transport of Government servants will increase from \$250,000 in 1930 to \$350,000 next year. This large increase calls for comment. I anticipate Government's reply that the greater the growth of the Colony, the larger must be the numerical strength of its personnel, hence the higher transportation cost. This being the case, Government should not be above accepting, mutatis mutandis, the hint contained in one of the recommendations of the recent Salaries Commission which reported upon the question of the salaries to the Shanghai Municipal Council's Staff, both foreign and Chinese. Regarding local applicants for Municipal Service the Commission recorded that:—

"In view of the high cost of obtaining and maintaining foreign employees in the Council's service, including passages, long leave and other benefits, the Commission is of the opinion that local residents, foreigners domiciled in China, and Chinese should be appointed wherever possible, provided that they possess the necessary qualifications and experience for the position to be occupied, thus reducing the heavy costs of appointments from abroad."

I deem it pardonable for giving prominence to this recommendation of the Shanghai Salaries Commission because there is so much excellent material obtainable in the Colony whose employment would mean a large saving in the cost of transport services alone. The Colony has founded of its own at some sacrifice. Why not find greater use for the products of our own seat of learning among the technical men whom the University is turning out in greater numbers each year? If the rumour is well founded that our graduates have to seek lucrative employment outside the Colony, then the truth of the saying is painfully forced upon one that "a prophet is not without honour save in his own country." There has been too great a tendency for the "sons of the soil" to be passed over in Hong Kong. This tendency ought to be checked, and a new policy inaugurated whereby qualified local men be afforded facilities for advancement in the Colonial Service.

We have a shining and outstanding example from amongst the unofficials of this Council of the benefit and advantages accruing to the public service in its recruiting of local talent. I refrain from mentioning any name for fear lest I bring a blush on the cheeks of my honourable friend. In point of recognised ability, linguistic attainment and untiring energy there should have been no limit to his promotion; but the discouraging and discriminatory service regulations stood in the way. I may say that these regulations do not excite any great enthusiasm in local enlistment for Government service.

For a long period of years a position of trust and responsibility was held by another local officer who retired with a unique record of 55 years' service with the Government. His successor was another Hong Kong man who has honourably earned his retirement on pension after not many years short of 40 years in public employment. His place has been filled by a Cadet Officer drawing emoluments on a basis the computation of which affords

Government assistance be most helpful. There is the Imperial Colonial Development Fund. Could not Hong Kong petition for the allocation of its quota which might be utilised, among other purposes, towards promoting, fostering and developing private enterprises redounding to the benefit of Hong Kong? The present appears to be the ideal moment for an appeal to be made to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies when a comparatively small round sum in sterling would represent a large amount when converted into Hong Kong dollars.

While on the subject of industries, I would not like to miss this opportunity of offering congratulations to the Department of Government, concerned on the businesslike expedition displayed in pushing ahead with contingent works in connection with the large private reclamation of the Tsim Wan foreshore. From an industrial point of view, with the advent of electrical power, I envision the genesis of a flourishing and important township in the Tsim Wan district of the New Territories with the completion of this important reclamation. Like the Shan Tseng Bay district Tsim Wan enjoys the unenviable reputation of being very malarious, the workmen employed there are subject to this form of ailment in a malignant form. I can appreciate how research work has first to be undertaken before remedial measures can be undertaken on a large scale. However, in his counted desire to assist private enterprise, I trust the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services will endeavour to take early and effective steps to rid Tsim Wan and Shan Tseng Bay of malaria, the extensive existence of which cannot but seriously retard the rapid development of districts that are so full of promise of becoming important industrial centres in the New Territories in the near future.

I have carefully searched the Draft Estimates for a sum of \$1,000 which had been promised for forestry work in certain areas in Kowloon, and principally for ornamental trees in the parks and open spaces of Kowloon Tong. To my regret, I cannot discover any such item of proposed expenditure. This small sum of money would be very well spent and help to improve that part of New Kowloon as the "Garden City" on the Mainland.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the series of open-air regimental band concerts which has just concluded were a source of infinite enjoyment to some hundreds of Kowloon residents during the few hot summer evenings when they were provided with excellent and thoroughly enjoyable music supplied by the military bands on the grounds of the Kowloon Football Club. The Finance Committee of this Council voted a sum of \$1,200 for band concerts during 1930. It is not such a large sum that it might not appear as a recurring item each year under Miscellaneous Services. I hope my suggestion will receive Your Excellency's favourable consideration.

My hope of an initial vote for the preliminary construction of the first section of the Circular Road in the New Territories as far as Ma Yue Tong has been doomed to disappointment. I looked in vain for the re-inclusion of the item that first appeared in the Estimates for the current year. I am conscious of the fact that the advisability of the construction of this road is debatable. Amongst the opponents of the project were ranged my unofficial colleagues of this Council. I draw attention to this subject not so much because I entertain any hope of success in these hard times, but that a scheme which, to my mind, will in the end prove remunerative will not be lost sight of entirely. I cannot appreciate the diffidence in embarking upon this project when it is known to the Government that there are a few prospective applicants for building sites as soon as a working plan of the new road should be available to them and likely residential plots shown on such plan.

Sir, leaving aside all contentious matter I turn to a suggestion which, if possessing no other merit, at any rate can claim that of originality. I hope I shall not be found guilty of temerity for bringing forward a proposal that involves some expenditure. The total outlay is not going to be very large; it will recoup itself in a few years and besides add to the amenities of Kowloon, which is fast growing into a large and beautiful city.

It was just a month ago that the Biology Buildings attached to the University were publicly opened by Your Excellency. It is only in the fitness of things that the thought suggests itself that a Public Marine Aquarium be established in the not distant future. I hope I may be justified in the submission that this is an opportune moment for bringing forward the suggestion. Apart from the economic and scientific aspects of such an institution, the popular interest which the project will arouse is certain to be great. A suitable site for the Aquarium should be in the area reserved for a Public Park recommended by the Playing Fields Committee near the Police Training School. There are public aquaria in Manila, Batavia, Japan, and Honolulu. Your Excellency is probably better acquainted than anyone of us with the Public Aquarium in Singapore. I am given to understand that there need be no doubt as to the ultimate financial success of a well-established aquarium in a large centre of population, such as I have suggested in Kowloon. The Aquarium in Manila, though small, maintains most interesting exhibits. There were in June of this year 891 exhibits, which attracted a great deal of attention. It cost P2,000 to build and less than P2,000 for its maintenance in 1929. There were 30,000 visitors last year, and a small entrance fee is charged, elementary pupils being admitted free. It should not be difficult to plan an Aquarium for Kowloon on the

evidence opposed to the clamour for retrenchment and still more economy.

I suppose there must be ready acceptance of the recommendation "to raise slightly the fees for some of the higher classes in the public schools." While acquiescing in this recommendation, it may not be amiss to enquire if the Medical Officer for Schools is quite satisfied that the furniture in some of the Government schools is all that is desired. For instance, enquiry may be instituted to ascertain whether the desks and benches are of the standard type and so designed as to be free from danger of injury to the health of the little children attending certain Government schools.

On certain items of special expenditure under the Canton-Kowloon Railway vote, comments have been brought to my notice as representing the considered opinions of a number of residents living out in the New Territories. As they form fair criticism, no apology is needed for submitting them for consideration. In the first place, the Railway Administration is congratulated on its foresight in the provision of \$1,840 for the Approach Road to Fanling Station. It is very desirable that this road be placed in proper order.

In the absence of any explanatory note, the item of \$8,250 for a new air compressor and motor is queried. It is held that if the apparatus is for paint spraying purposes the proposal should not be concurred in.

Criticism is rather more ungenerous when it comes to sub-head 41—"Sheung Shui Station, Extensions, \$43,100." I am not so great a user of the railway as to be in a position of being a fair critic; but if the presumption is true that the station is to be extended at a cost of \$43,100 for the benefit of a few golfers only, then the proposed expenditure requires more careful scrutiny.

Sub-head 45 is the re-appearance of \$40,000 for "new bodywork for 4 coaches." There are technical men who advocate that, before incurring this expenditure, enquiries might be made of, and tenders invited from, firms in the Colony capable of building railway coaches, of which there are several. In this connection there are those who hold that the present third-class coaches are of an entirely unsuitable type for the traffic on this line.

The advantage of assisting local industries is obvious. While on this subject, I trust Your Excellency will kindly direct that the deliberations of the Empire Conference be closely watched in order that full benefit be taken of its recommendations, with special reference to Empire trade preference. Our local industries need all the assistance they can obtain for their maintenance and development. It has been regretfully observed that a few are struggling with intensive competition of heavily-subsidised products. It is an elementary obligation imposed upon the Colony to ensure that its industrial rivals enter this field upon a footing of equality and not upon terms so disadvantageous to local enterprises as to defeat all possibility of successful competition.

The Colonial Secretary in his speech hinted that "the share market indicates that commercial undertakings are expected to prosper." It is sincerely to be hoped that there may be early fulfilment of this prophecy, to effect which Government can do its part by securing for our industrial undertakings a measure of freedom from unfair competition against which we have so strenuously to fight.

In another direction also could Government assistance be most helpful. There is the Imperial Colonial Development Fund. Could not Hong Kong petition for the allocation of its quota which might be utilised, among other purposes, towards promoting, fostering and developing private enterprises redounding to the benefit of Hong Kong? The present appears to be the ideal moment for an appeal to be made to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies when a comparatively small round sum in sterling would represent a large amount when converted into Hong Kong dollars.

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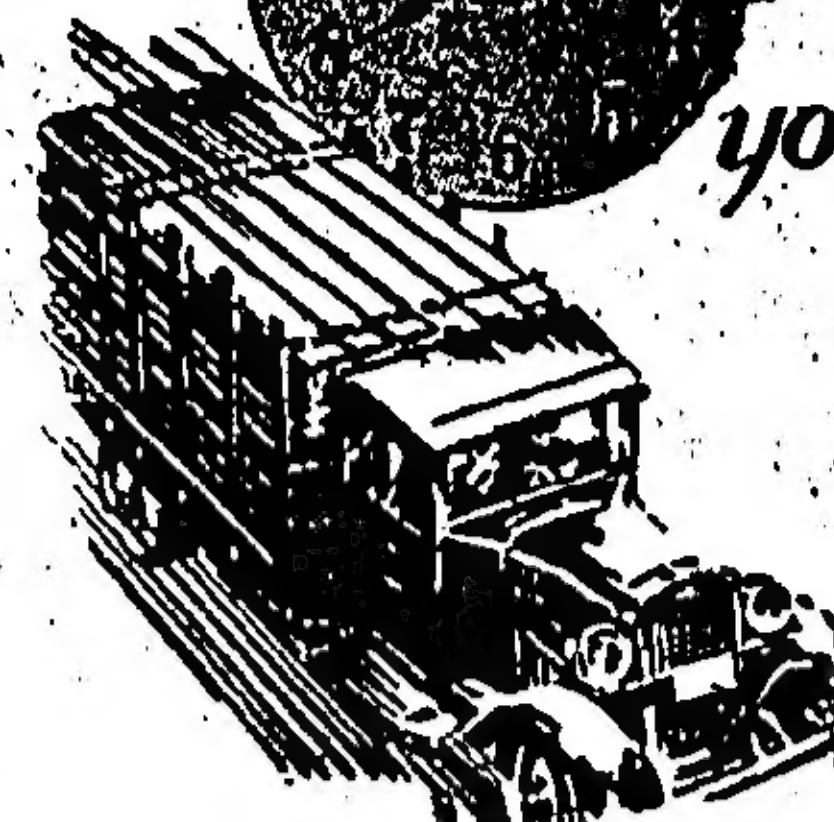
Manila or any other improved model. In this connection a short extract from the general report of Mr. David G. Stead, Fisheries Enquiry Commissioner, upon the fisheries of British Malaya is well worth consideration.

"I would even go so far as to suggest," Mr. Stead wrote, "that in a country of such mixed nationalities, where human interests are so diverse, a large well-established public aquarium would be really of national benefit as well as of great assistance in municipal organisation and order." Mr. Stead moralises that "it has come to be recognised in most parts of the world, at the present time, that it is far more easy to control a people who are able to satisfy, by proper means, their natural desire for recreation and amusement." He regards a public aquarium as "an essential institution" and argues that "even if it did not 'pay' from the strictly financial point of view it would still be a very 'cheap' means of granting to the public very valuable educational facilities." I share the view that

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There need be no fear that an aquarium at Kowloon will not pay, always provided that it is properly designed, constructed, and "run." Your Excellency, I apologise for the inordinate length of my speech. I justify it on the ground that this is the one occasion in the year when Unofficial Members of Your Excellency's Council have the opportunity of placing their views very fully before Your Excellency on matters concerning the administration, finance, and municipal needs of the Colony. Better far that criticisms be advanced openly in the honest conviction of their soundness than that there be tacit acquiescence in proposals with which one does not inwardly agree.



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HIYO MARU	Wednesday, 22nd October.
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LONDON, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Suez.	
SUWA MARU	Saturday, 1st Nov. at 11 a.m.
FUSHIMI MARU	Saturday, 15th November.
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ARI MARU	Tuesday, 21st October.
KITANO MARU	Tuesday, 19th November.
BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.	
TOTTORI MARU	Monday, 27th October.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.	
BOKUYO MARU	Saturday, 20th November.
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports.	
WAKASA MARU	Tuesday, 18th November.
NEW YORK, BOSTON via Panama.	
TSUYAMA MARU	Sunday, 9th November.
Calcutta via Port Said, Suez, Constantinople, Genoa.	
TOYOOKA MARU	Thursday, 13th November.
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.	
RANGHON MARU	Wednesday, 20th October.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.	
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SAILINGS FROM HONG KONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.	
AMUR MARU	Monday, 10th November.
LONDON MARU	Sunday, 14th December.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Cape Town.	
SANTOS MARU	Thursday, 30th October.
RIO DE JANEIRO	Friday, 28th November.
BOMBAY—Via Singapore & Colombo.	
SHUNKO MARU (Calls at Karachi)	Monday, 3rd November.
DURBAN, LOURENCO MARQUES, BEIRA, DAR-ES-SALAAM, ZANZIBAR & MOMBASA—Via Singapore & Colombo.	
PANAMA MARU	Wednesday, 5th November.
CALCUTTA—Via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.	
HIMALAYA MARU	Saturday, 1st November.
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER.	
ARIZONA MARU (from Shanghai)	Monday, 20th October.
AFRICA MARU (from Shanghai)	Thursday, 13th November.
MELBOURNE—Via Manila, Brisbane & Sydney.	
MELBOURNE MARU	Thursday, 8th November.
HONGKONG—Via Hoihow & Pakhoi.	
NEW YORK—Via Japan ports & Panama.	
LOS ANGELES, PANAMA, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, AND PHILADELPHIA.	
SANYO MARU	Saturday, 25th October.
JAPAN PORTS.	
NITTO MARU (via Keelung)	Tuesday, 21st October.
TACOMA MARU	Friday, 24th October.
BATAVIA MARU	Monday, 10th November.
KEELUNG—Via Swatow & Amoy.	
TAKAO—Via Swatow & Amoy.	
TAKAO & KEELUNG.	
BATAVIA MARU	Monday, 10th November.

### STEAMERS' MOVEMENTS

The B. I. & Apat. Line s.s. "Talanta" left Singapore for this Port on October 16, p.m. and is due here on October 20 at about 3.30 p.m.  
The P. & O. Line s.s. "Macedonia" left Singapore for this Port on October 18 at 7 a.m. and is due here on October 22 at about 9 a.m.  
The m.v. "Cingalese Prince" from New York, sailed from Shanghai on October 18 in the afternoon and is expected to arrive here on October 21 at daylight.  
The Ben Line s.s. Benlomond from Hull, Middlesbrough, Antwerp, London and Straits, left Singapore for this Port on October 19 and is due to arrive here on October 24.

### CONSIGNEES' NOTICES

Consignees of cargo ex s.s. City of Johannesburg are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after October 21.  
Consignees of cargo ex s.s. Benmacduh are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after October 22.  
Consignees of cargo ex m.v. "Tai Ping Yang" are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after October 23.

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### COUNCIL MEETING.

Hon. Dr. S. W. T'so.

Sir—I rise to express my general agreement with the speeches made by the senior Unofficial member, the Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow, and by my Chinese Colleague the Hon. Dr. Kotewall. The unprecedented fall in the exchange rate of the dollar and the general increase in salaries necessitate the increase of taxation in order to meet the commitments of the Government.

While the whole community would loyally support the Government by paying these increases, yet there is a feeling of uneasiness in the mind of the people in that the extra burden which they are called upon to bear is not for any special work for the advancement of the Colony but merely to counterbalance the low value of the dollar and to pay increase emoluments. Moreover, drastic cuts have to be made into the expenditure of essential works of the Colony. How long the present exchange value of the dollar will remain, and how much lower it may still further drop, no one can tell. To suffer the finance of the Colony to fluctuate with the caprice of exchange, I submit, is uneconomical. I urge, therefore, that the Government will leave no stone unturned to find out the possibility or feasibility of stabilizing the currency of the Colony at an early date.

#### The Poor That Suffer.

It is unfortunate that the assessment tax has to be increased in order to raise revenue to meet the Colony's expenditure. It is unfortunate because this form of taxation falls heavily upon the shoulders of the poorer class of the Chinese. During the Great War the assessment tax was increased by 7 per cent, but it was understood that the imposition was to be temporary, namely, during the period of the War.

But Hong Kong was less affected by the war and trade depression was not then so much felt in the Colony as it is to-day, due, no doubt, to the fall of the value of the dollar and the interminable strife in China. I trust, therefore, that the Government will see its way of declaring that the imposition of this tax is but temporary and it will be removed when the value of the dollar goes up or when the financial position of the Colony is improved.

#### Education Matters.

Under Head 28, Education Department, in the Budget, I find that the item under Capitation Grant is reduced from that of last year by \$3,430, and, as pointed out by the Hon. Dr. Kotewall, the item "Subsidies to Elementary vernacular Schools in Hong Kong" by \$15,000. These grants and subsidies are a means of helping the carrying on of schools under private enterprise. The more of these schools are established in the Colony the lighter will be the responsibility

of the Government for providing Government schools for the education of the people. From an economic point of view the cutting down of these grants and subsidies, I submit, is not a good policy; particularly as the Government is paying, I understand, about 75 per cent of the costs of maintaining its schools, besides the heavy cost of erecting school buildings.

Anglo-Chinese School. In view of the rapid development in the Kowloon City area the need of an Anglo-Chinese School there is very real. Although there is one in existence by private enterprise, it may have to close its doors soon for want of Government support. I would therefore urge that the Government will take the matter up seriously either to give support to this existing school or to provide a Government School for the inhabitants of Kowloon City.

I do not intend to criticise here the educational system of the Colony, but I do wish to express the gratitude of the poor to the Government for taking an interest in the establishment of trade schools by appointing a Committee to enquire into the feasibility or possibility of establishing such schools where the poor can learn a trade to enable them to make a living.

With these few remarks I wish to join with my honourable unofficial colleagues in pledging to Your Excellency my loyal support and co-operation. (Applause.)

### Mr. Paul Lauder.

Sir—I have studied the Budget for the year 1931, also the speech by the Honourable the Colonial Secretary on this subject with much interest.

The first thought which will occur to anyone in studying the Estimates is the heavily increased cost of administering the Government.

A considerable increase, however, under present conditions is inevitable in that the Colony has important gold commitments which have to be paid for in silver. The price of silver having fallen to an unprecedentedly low figure with the consequent decline in the sterling value of the dollar, the cost of these gold commitments turned into dollars must of necessity show a considerable increase.

#### Need For More Revenue.

Under all these circumstances it becomes necessary for the Government to raise additional revenue, and I have no criticism to offer of the suggested increased taxation which it is proposed to introduce except that I would mention that it seems to me the increase, in the General Assessment Rate by 4 per cent, is a fair and reasonable method to adopt and, as the Honourable the Colonial Secretary has said, this tax is an economical one to collect.

I am pleased that the Government have taken serious notice of the increased cost of administration and that they have in consequence brought into being a Retrenchment Committee which is at present carrying on its most difficult task. It is to be hoped they will be able to show some means whereby the heavy burden of expenditure can be lightened as there is no doubt there is great and pressing need for economy.

Unexpected Drop in Silver. The fall in the price of silver and the consequent decline in the sterling value of the dollar to its present low level was quite unexpected, and in this connection I would say that there must inevitably be certain conditions in such matters which it is not possible to foresee or allow for. It occurs to me that the increased number of dollars at present received by the sterling paid officers of the Government may more than compensate them for the increased cost of living due to the decline in exchange. If the government are also of this opinion and in view of present conditions, I suggest that they might consider fixing some minimum rate of exchange for the payment of their sterling paid officers' salaries.

Suggestion to the Government. If half these salaries were paid at a fixed rate of 1/8 when exchange falls below this figure and

half at the current rate this might constitute a fair basis of payment and if exchange remains at its present level it would bring considerable relief in the matter of expenditure. I commend this suggestion to the Government for its consideration. (Applause.)

### OFFICIAL REPLY.

#### Colonial Secretary and Criticism.

The Colonial Secretary, replying to a number of criticisms in detail, regretted the absence of explanatory notes in the Estimates, but pointed out that the Treasury Memorandum was something of a new departure and considered to be more helpful.

Explaining the sum of \$17,500 for use of motor vans which appeared in the Estimates of revenue, he said that special sanitary department vans were now conveying pork carcasses from slaughter houses to stalls at a charge of six cents a carcass to be made to cover running costs. The increase in Other Charges, Harbour Office, was mainly accounted for by the difference in exchange.

#### Kowloon-Canton Railway.

Regarding the Kowloon-Canton Railway, he detailed how operating expenses were now considerably greater than formerly and pointed out that when the three new express engines were brought into service, a sum of \$18,000 would have to be provided for depreciation. It was under consideration to raise Local and Joint Sectional fares as from January 1, next to a rate which would bring them more into line with those charged on the Chinese section.

#### Furniture Vote.

Explaining the furniture vote of \$48,000, he pointed out that this was a total sum whereas the totals from different headings in last year's estimates amounted to \$55,190. Thus, a decrease had been effected.

Answering Mr. Braga on the point of the incidence of assessment, he said that there was no intention of letting off the Government servant too lightly for he could be made to bear his proportion of the burden in other ways. The higher cost of transport was mainly on account of the exchange rate but the Government hoped to secure certain economies.

#### Sheung Shui Station.

The rebuilding of the Sheung Shui railway station was a choice between abandoning or re-building. The station was an important one on the system; there had been an

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average of 6,000 passengers per month (excluding golfers) and much revenue had been obtained by the greater use of the station owing to the bus services between Un Loong and Shau Tau Kok.

Regarding the Colonial Development Fund the Government had not lost sight of the opportunities that might be offered by it, but assistance was not to be had for the mere asking. They were carefully exploring the possibility of getting assistance for such works as the Government Civil Hospital and a new jail. (applause.)

### H.E. THE GOVERNOR

#### Replies to Unofficial Speeches.

The Governor, in reply to the remarks of Unofficial members, said:  
Honourable Members:—The subject has been so exhaustively dealt with that there appears little left for me to say. In the first place, I wish to thank the Colonial Secretary for his able exposition of the (Continued on Page 7.)

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*KIDDERPORE	5,354	11th Nov.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
*NAGPORE	5,283	15th Nov.	Marseilles, Barcelona, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*KARMALA	9,123	22nd Nov.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*RAWALPINDI	16,619	6th Dec.	Bombay, Marseilles, & London.
*KALYAN	9,444	20th Dec.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*LAHORE	5,304	27th Dec.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*RANCHI	16,650	3rd Jan.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
*JEYPORE	5,318	10th Jan.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*KASHMIR	8,965	17th Jan.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
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*NELLORE	5,853	31st Oct.	Manila, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
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TALAMBA	8,018	25th Oct.	Amoy, Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, Yokohama & Osaka.
*MACEDONIA	11,120	23rd Oct.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TALMA	10,000	3rd Nov.	Amoy, Moji & Kobe.
*LAHORE	5,304	3rd Nov.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*RAWALPINDI	16,650	7th Nov.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*TAKADA	9,949	14th Nov.	Amoy, Moji & Kobe.
*JEYPORE	5,318	22nd Nov.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*KALYAN	9,444	22nd Nov.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*RANCHI	16,650	5th Dec.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*KASHMIR	8,965	20th Dec.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.

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## SNOW FALLS IN U.S.

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DROP IN THE TEMPERATURE.

New York, Yesterday.  
After a long spell of mild weather, the temperature during the week-end fell very suddenly to 40 degrees. Eighteen inches of snow occurred in some parts of New York State, and thousands of cars were snowbound.—Reuter's American Service.

## ARRIVALS OF SHIPS.

Friday, October 17.  
Carnarvonshire, British str., 5,955 tons, Capt. H. S. Gulton, from Shanghai, buoy No. A12.—J. M. & Co.

Kaitangata, British str., 1,202 tons, Captain L. N. Beer, from Tourane, buoy No. C44.—Choo Yick & Co.

Wing Lee, Portuguese str., 641 tons, Captain Jose Antunes, from K. C. Wan, Saikong Wharf.—Wo Hop & Co.

Saturday, October 18.  
Bonneville, Norwegian str., 2,794 tons, Captain R. Fr. Inoltzen, from Manila, buoy No. A9.—Thoresen & Co.

Borneo Maru, Japanese str., 4,261 tons, Captain T. Asow, from Moji, Kowloon Wharf.—O.S.K. Changkiang, French str., 1,717 tons, Captain L. J. Cruchot, from Hoilow, buoy No. B21.—Sing Kee & Co.

Chian Lee, Chinese str., 1,850 tons, Capt. K. Ishii, from Swatow, buoy No. C17.—Yee Tai Hong.

Deli Maru, Japanese str., 1,293 tons, Captain E. Sanada, from Swatow, Stonecutters.—O.S.K. Hang Sang, British str., 1,356 tons, Captain L. H. Hutchings, from Canton, Yaumati.—J. M. & Co.

Hin Sang, British str., 1,885 tons, Capt. T. Grant, from Sandakan, buoy No. B47.—J. M. & Co.

Hydrange, British str., 561 tons, Captain P. W. Grierison, from Swatow, Chiu On Wharf.—Chiu On S.S. Co.

Kittawa, British str., 708 tons, Captain Crathwaite, from Hongkong, Yaumati.—Williamson & Co.

New Mathilde, British str., 842 tons, Capt. D. Thompson, from Pak-hoi, buoy No. B21.—Yick Tai & Co.

Ningching, British str., 984 tons, Captain H. Pallesen, from Bangkok, buoy No. C46.—Berg & Co.

Pres. Fillmore, American str., 15,575 tons, Capt. W. O. Kohlmeier, from Shanghai, Kowloon Wharf.—A. M. Line.

Suiyang, British str., 1,594 tons, Capt. R. Allinson, from Canton, buoy No. B12.—B. & S.

Talky Maru, Japanese str., 1,804 tons, Captain H. Fujii, from Borneo, buoy No. B50.—Wada Jimusho.

Taiyuan, British str., 2,109 tons, Captain R. Robertson, from Amoy, buoy No. B13.—B. & S.

Tevere, Italian str., 4,441 tons, Capt. A. Valcini, from Shanghai, buoy No. A4.—Dodwell & Co.

Yu Sang, British str., 1,122 tons, Capt. R. C. Thompson, from Canton, buoy No. C14.—J. M. & Co.

Sunday, October 19.  
Changking, British str., 1,510 tons, Capt. W. Poplow, from Canton, buoy No. A9.—B. & S.

Clara Jensen, Danish str., 1,145 tons, Capt. J. Davidson, from Hoilow, Stonecutters.—Jensen & Co.

Corona, Norwegian str., 1,953 tons, Captain E. Stormer, from Canton, buoy No. B50.—Dodwell & Co.

Hai Ning, British str., 932 tons, Captain A. H. Stewart, from Foochow, Amoy and Swatow, Douglas Wharf.—Douglas & Co.

Hiroshi Maru, Japanese str., 940 tons, Captain Y. Okada, from Keelung, Yaumati.—M.B.K. Kalgan, British str., 1,556 tons, Captain A. Cook, from Swatow, buoy No. B34.—B. & S.

Luchow, British str., 1,221 tons, Capt. W. Paul, from Canton, buoy No. B48.—B. & S.

Pres. Grant, American str., 14,118 tons, Capt. R. J. Healy, from Manila, Kowloon Wharf.—Dollar S.S. Line.

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Tau via S'ow & S'hai	WAISHING	Wed. 29th Oct. at 7 a.m.
Tau via S'ow & S'hai	CHAKSANG	Sun. 2nd Nov. at 7 a.m.
S'ow, Penang & Calcutta	NAMSANG	Tues. 23rd Oct. at 3 p.m.
S'ow, Penang & Calcutta	KUTSANG	Fri. 7th Nov. at 3 p.m.
S'ow, Penang & Calcutta	HOSANG	Sat. 15th Nov. at 3 p.m.
Osaka via Amoy, Shanghai	YUENSANG	Wed. 5th Nov. at 7 a.m.
Osaka via Amoy & Kobe	HOSANG	Tues. 28th Oct. at 7 a.m.
Osaka via Amoy & Kobe	KUMSANG	Wed. 19th Nov. at 7 a.m.
Sandakan	HINSANG	Thurs. 23rd Oct. at Noon
Sandakan	MAUSANG	Sat. 1st Nov. at 3 p.m.
Tientsin via Swatow & CHIPSHING		Fri. 31st Oct. at 7 a.m.
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No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 23rd instant will be subject to rent.

All claims against the vessel must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 2nd inst., or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godown, where they will be examined on the 23rd instant at 10 a.m. by our surveyors Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bill of Lading will be countersigned by DODWELL & CO., LTD. Agents.

Hong Kong, 17



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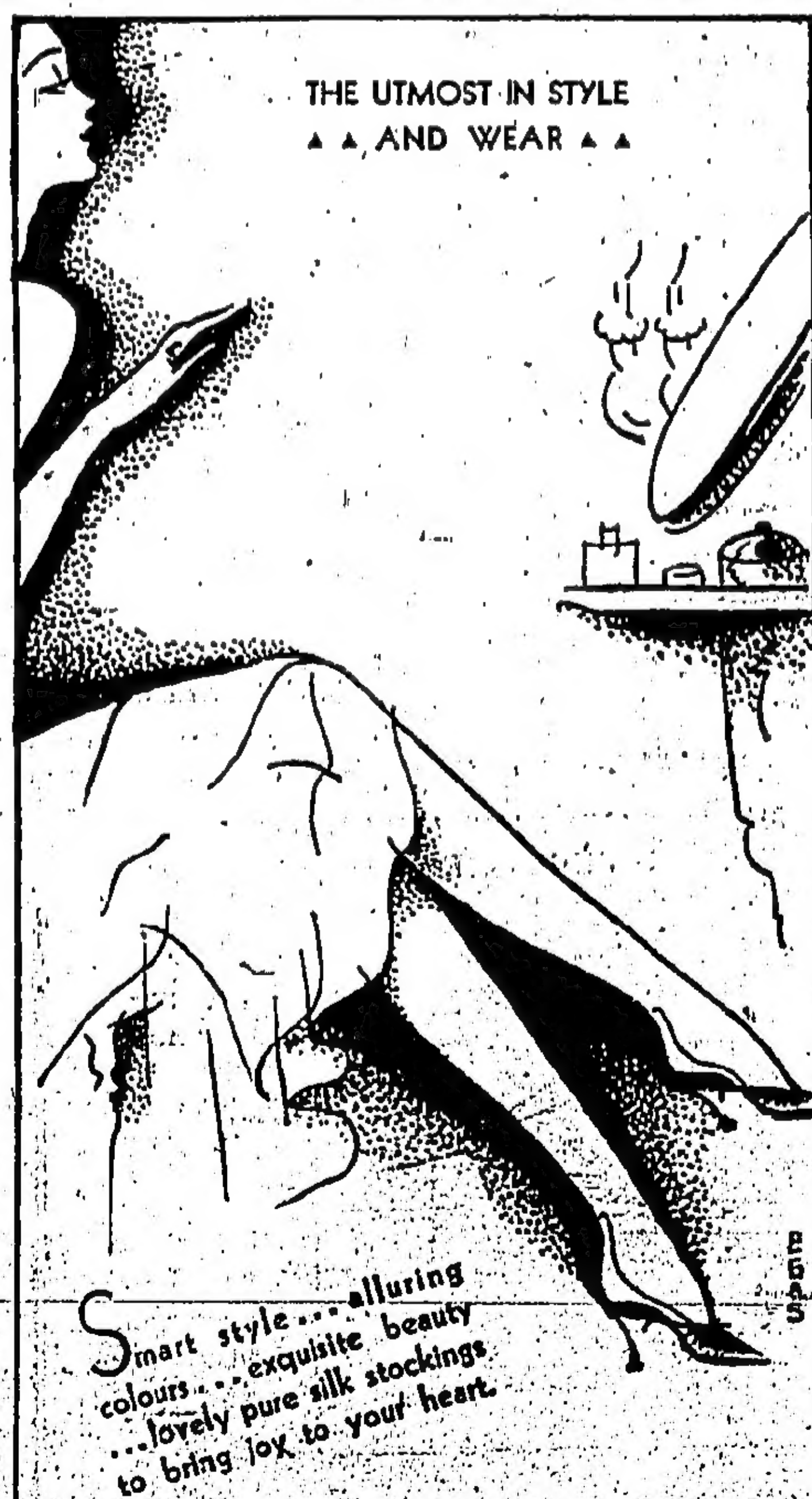
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## ANNOUNCEMENT.

Miss E. N. Earl and Mr. F. S. W.  
Smith invite all friends to their  
wedding at St. Andrew's Church,  
Kowloon on 1st November, 1930 at  
2.30 p.m. and afterwards at 2,  
Humphreys Building, Carnarvon  
Road, Kowloon.

Hong Kong, Monday, Oct. 20, 1930.

## TALK ON THE BUDGET

To-day's full dress debate on  
the Budget by the Unofficials was  
not very illuminating or enlight-  
ening—not even very helpful  
except in regard to one item  
affecting salaries and exchange. A  
vast area of ground has been  
covered, but within the short  
space of time at our disposal to-  
day it cannot be expected that  
we can do more than generalise,  
leaving detailed criticism, where  
thought necessary, to another  
day.

With the senior Unofficial  
member, the Hon. Sir Shou-son  
Chow, we regret the non-appear-  
ance at this important stage of  
the abstract showing, with ap-  
propriate footnotes, a comparison  
between the approved Estimates  
for 1930 and Estimates for 1931.  
As the senior Unofficial member  
stated in the Council Chamber  
to-day, the abstract presented  
last year enabled us to tell at a  
glance how much of the total in-  
crease in personal emoluments is  
due to the creation of new posts,  
how much to stipulate increas-  
ments just as it enabled us to  
find out how much saving was to  
be effected by the abolition of  
posts, how much by reductions  
due to new appointments, and  
how much by other readjust-  
ments. It was pointed out to-  
day that the scantiness of the

footnotes was commented upon by  
the Unofficials last year, and an  
improvement was promised. That  
promise has not been honoured,  
except in the Estimates of ex-  
penditure and a few explanations  
in the memorandum of the Colonial  
Treasurer and in the speech of  
the Colonial Secretary in intro-  
ducing the Budget. Without the  
very fullest information accom-  
panying the Estimates it is quite  
impossible for the ordinary citi-  
zen, let alone Unofficial members  
of the Council, to ascertain the  
true position, although, as was  
stated this morning, it is more  
necessary now than in previous  
years for the public to know how  
the total of personal emoluments  
is made up, especially what  
total increase is entailed by the  
revision of salaries.

With regard to the augmenta-  
tion of existing taxation and the  
imposition of new taxes, it is to  
be feared that the Unofficials to-  
day did not brave the lion in his  
den with the same ardour as  
many expected. It may have  
been that the apparently inevit-  
able increase in revenue to meet  
one item of expenditure alone,  
besides the bogey of the Official  
majority, may have unconsciously  
moderated the tone of the Un-  
official speeches. Certainly there  
was to-day almost an en-  
tire lack of creative thought  
or of originality—a tenden-  
cy merely to take increased  
taxation for granted, beyond a  
pious hope that an alternative  
might be found for the increase  
in the assessment tax. There  
was an entire absence of a united  
Official front that the Govern-  
ment should altogether forgo ex-  
penditure which, whilst it might  
be passed over in normal years,  
could very well be deferred to a  
more prosperous year than 1931  
promises to be. Even in recent  
Supplementary Estimates, there  
has been an official tendency to  
rush through schemes that can  
only be called extravagant at the  
moment, however desirable they  
might appear at some future time.  
In regard to these we have looked  
in vain for any Unofficial demur.  
Certainly there was no unit-  
ed Unofficial demand that the Gov-  
ernment must cut its coat accord-  
ing to its cloth and leave costly  
schemes to more propitious years  
than this or next year.

In short, we fail to find any  
ground for implying that the  
Government's policy is that of  
exercising as much thrift as is  
consistent with efficiency. Very  
recent Supplementary Estimates  
tell quite a different tale, as do  
the Estimates of expenditure for  
next year. Estimates with re-

gard to which the Budget fram-  
ers have contented themselves  
with a mere nibble instead of a  
thorough pruning. The Un-  
officials have pointed to only a few  
items that might well be curtailed,  
but there was lacking in their  
speeches to-day an exhaustive  
and well considered analysis  
to support the immediate call for  
retrenchment and economy apart  
altogether from the question of  
personnel. So long as costly  
schemes are permitted to be  
rushed through in the guise of  
Supplementary Votes whilst the  
public mind is concentrated on  
the Budget itself, Unofficial criti-  
cism of the Budget itself cannot  
carry much weight either with  
the Government or with the com-  
munity as a whole.

## News in Brief.

Three Chinese have been arrest-  
ed on suspicion in connection with  
an alleged case of attempted  
arson at No. 77 Wing Lok Street  
on Saturday night.

An enjoyable dance under the  
auspices of the Corps of Signals  
was held in the Whitfield Barracks,  
Kowloon, on Saturday night.  
There was a most encouraging at-  
tendance of both sexes, who spent  
a most pleasant evening.

Joseph Gearon, a fireman, and  
Kenneth Stanton, an electrician,  
both on board the President Grant,  
were to-day charged before Mr.  
H. R. Butters with having wantonly  
or negligently fired crackers in  
Canton Road to the danger of the  
public. The Magistrate imposed a  
fine of \$10 on each.

Before Mr. Butters at the Kow-  
loon Police Court this morning, a  
Chinese tallyman of the steamer  
Hupei pleaded guilty to the unlaw-  
ful possession of 2.7 tael of raw  
opium, which was found with him  
on board the motor boat, Shing Lee.  
A fine of \$80, or six weeks' hard  
labour was imposed.

Six weeks' hard labour was the  
sentence passed on a Chinese at the  
Kowloon Police Court to-day by Mr.  
H. R. Butters when he pleaded  
guilty to the larceny of 14 planks of  
wood from an unenclosed woodyard  
in Yaumati. The accused had serv-  
ed two weeks' jail at the  
beginning of this month.

A delightful concert was  
held in the sail loft of  
the Naval Dockyard on Satur-  
day on the occasion of the  
presentation of swimming, bil-  
liards, and tennis prizes won dur-  
ing the past season. Some excel-  
lent talent was revealed, all con-  
fined to the Dockyard staff and  
their lady relatives and friends.

The final wind up of a most suc-  
cessful lawn bowls season at the  
Craighower C.C. took the form  
of a dance on Saturday night, when  
a very merry time was spent by a  
large attendance of members and  
friends. During an interval in a  
pleasant and well selected dance  
programme the prizes won during  
the past season were formally dis-  
tributed.

For being the unlawful receiver  
of a mah jong set which he knew  
to be stolen from 586 Canton Road,  
first floor, Ho Muk-shing (25) was  
to-day sentenced to five weeks' hard  
labour by Mr. H. R. Butters, at the  
Kowloon Court. The complainant  
was Chau Kwai, master of the Chi  
Fat Shipping Co. Accused pleaded  
that he was told by somebody, who  
stole the set, to pawn it.

A Chinese was charged this  
morning before Mr. R. E. Lindsell  
at the Central Magistracy with  
plucking the feathers of a dove  
while the bird was still alive. He  
said that the bird was dead for  
some time before he plucked the  
feathers. Evidence showed that  
the bird was still warm when  
taken to the Police Station. A fine  
of \$20 was imposed.

A Chinese was brought before  
Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Central  
Magistracy for having returned  
from banishment before the expiry  
of his term. On looking over the  
man's record, the Magistrate found  
that only a few days ago, he was  
sent away by the Kowloon Magis-  
trate. He asked the man if he en-  
joyed remaining in jail since he  
had had already ten years of it.  
Sentence of 12 months, and 24  
strokes of the birch was passed.

Wong Sit-cheung, an elderly  
Chinese, who was wanted in  
Sydney for alleged embezzlement  
and who had been before Mr. R. E.  
Lindsell at the Central Magistracy  
on several occasions under an ex-  
tradition warrant, was this morn-  
ing discharged on the application  
of C.L.D. Murphy, who said that  
the man had volunteered to return  
to Sydney to stand his trial. He  
would be leaving to-morrow. He  
was accordingly discharged.

BRITON RELEASED BY  
THE SOVIET.

But No News Received  
of His Arrival.

## EX-MINISTER'S NEPHEW.

Peking, Yesterday.  
Master Christopher Jewett, aged  
18, the nephew of the former  
Cabinet Minister, the Rt. Hon. F. W.  
Jewett, P.C. who was detained by  
the Soviet OGPU (Secret Police) on  
the Chinese-Soviet frontier on Sep-  
tember 25, and detained in a filthy  
room, without food or bedding, at  
Chita, wired to his parents on Sat-  
urday last that he was leaving  
Chita on that day and expected to  
enter Chinese territory on Sun-  
day. Up to the present, however,  
no news of his arrival has been re-  
ceived.—Reuter.

## KOWLOON BLAZES.

Two small fires occurred in Kow-  
loon within the last 24 hours. At  
3.17 o'clock yesterday afternoon, two  
wooden huts in the Po Kong Village,  
Kowloon City district, were burned  
down, but fortunately two occupants  
got away in time. Two appliances  
under Mr. G. C. Moss were despatched  
to the scene, where, on arrival  
the outbreak was nearly subdued.  
Damage done is estimated to be  
over \$120.

The second fire took place this  
morning before ten o'clock, when  
about a gallon of tar became ignited  
on the roof of a house in Hamilton  
Street. Two fire engines were sent,  
and the blaze was subdued in a short  
time. Damage was done to a  
chimney on the roof.

## WOMAN STRANGLER.

A case of murder was reported  
to the Police on Saturday night  
from Kowloon City. It appeared  
that the inmates of the house went  
to the theatre that night leaving a  
woman alone in the house. They  
returned at about 10 p.m., and  
found that the woman's cubicle  
door was locked from the outside.  
Suspecting that there was some-  
thing wrong they reported the mat-  
ter to the Police.  
On arrival, the Police broke  
open the door and found that the  
woman had been strangled to  
death. A man living with her had  
since disappeared.

## STOP PRESS

## Bombay, Yesterday.

It is reported from Kalwan  
village in the Nasik district  
of Bombay, that a mob of  
4,000, armed with bows,  
arrows, and spears, etc., ter-  
rorised the villagers against  
paying forest fees. The  
headmen of the village were  
tied to trees and flogged.

Two policemen are miss-  
ing, and it is believed that  
they were murdered. Armed  
Police have been despatched  
to the scene.—Reuter.

## Brussels, Yesterday.

A sensational allegation is  
made by La Libre Belgique  
that a sequel to the meeting  
of Madame Hanau's creditors  
is that a Bank has been  
founded in Belgium whereby  
Madame Hanau hopes to recoup  
her losses and repay her  
French creditors. This Bank  
is established under the aus-  
pices of three firms, the  
Managing Director of one of  
them being one of Madame  
Hanau's backers in the  
Gazette du Franc.—Reuter.

London, Yesterday.  
The death has occurred of  
Captain James McGregor,  
late Commodore of the Glen  
Line.—Reuter.

## Richmond (Virginia),

Yesterday.  
The well-known sculptor,  
Mr. Edward Virginus, is  
dead.—Reuter's American  
Service.

## Valentine (New Orleans),

Yesterday.  
Earthquake shocks have  
been felt here and in a num-  
ber of towns in South-  
Eastern Louisiana. There  
are no casualties and no  
damage. The epicentre is  
believed to be in the Gulf of  
Mexico.—Reuter's American  
Service.

Washington, Yesterday.  
It is officially announced  
that taxation receipts for the  
first quarter of the fiscal  
year have decreased by  
\$62,472,000 as compared with  
the same period last year.  
The chief drop is in income  
tax.—Reuter's American  
Service.

ARMS HERE FROM  
HONOLULU.

Chinese Ignorance of  
the Law.

## ARREST IN A TOWBOAT.

A Chinese, born in Honolulu, was  
charged before R. E. Lindsell this  
morning at the Central Magistracy  
with the possession of one shot gun,  
two revolvers and a quantity of  
ammunition.

Mr. E. S. C. Brooks appeared for  
the accused and entered a plea of  
"Guilty."

Mr. Brooks said that the defen-  
dant arrived two days ago by the  
s.s. "President," Fillmore, and,  
through ignorance of the law he  
thought he could take the arms  
back to his native country for pro-  
tection. There was no attempt  
made at concealment. The contra-  
band was packed in a wooden box,  
and the weight of it would natu-  
rally make any police officer suspi-  
cious.

Insp. Andrews said that he had  
been asked to press the case. The  
contraband was no doubt packed in  
a case, but inside the case there  
were nothing else but four empty  
glass bottles and some gunny bags.  
The defendant was arrested this  
morning on a Shekhi towboat.

The Magistrate held that there  
was no attempt at concealment and  
imposed a fine of \$250.

## ASSIZES CASES.

VILLAGE MURDER TRIAL  
POSTPONED.

## CAT FOR ROBBER.

The assizes opened before Mr.  
Justice P. Jacks in the Supreme  
Court this morning.

The first case called was that in  
which Tang Yung, an aged Chinese  
woman living in Autau village is  
charged with the alleged murder  
of her husband.

Mr. Fitzroy told his Lordship  
that as Mr. F. C. Jenkin has been  
assigned to the defence only on  
Saturday last, and also because  
since the woman's committal  
there had been certain develop-  
ments which the Crown required  
time to investigate, he would ask  
that the case be put over to the  
next Session. He added that the  
defence knew of his application  
and raised no objection.

His Lordship allowed the case  
to stand over.

## A Brutal Robber.

The next accused was Ng Lam,  
who pleaded "guilty" to charges of  
stealing 43 cents from a Chinese  
girl named Tong Nam-on (6), and  
causing serious injuries to an  
amah named Ho Chi, whom he at-  
tacked with a chopper during a  
burglary at 210, Lockhart Road,  
Wanchai on the night of Septem-  
ber 4.

In passing sentence, his Lord-  
ship described the accused's attack  
on the amah as brutal, and passed  
sentence of three years' hard  
labour on each count. In addition,  
he was ordered to receive 12  
strokes of the "cat" on the second  
count. The jail terms are to run  
concurrently.

## Theft of Earrings.

The case against Au Nam of  
theft of a pair of earrings at 11,  
Swatow Street, Wanchai, on the  
early morning of September 10  
was then proceeded with.

The accused claimed trial, and  
after a jury was appointed the  
Court proceeded with the taking  
of evidence until the fifth hour  
when an adjournment was made.

## THEFT FROM CAR.

RECEIVER STONES THE  
DRIVER.

## PROPERTY RECOVERED.

To-day Wong Fook was charged  
before Mr. H. R. Butters with the  
larceny of a radiator meter from  
public car 475 which was parked on  
Salisbury Road, or alternatively,  
with unlawfully receiving it. A  
driver employed by the Eagle  
Garage, 27 Canton Road, was the  
complainant.

Accused pleaded that somebody  
else stole the radiator meter, but he  
helped in the recovery of it.

Detective-Sergeant P. Kellett  
said that the driver saw the accus-  
ed near the car outside the Star  
Ferry wharf. He went up and dis-  
covered that the radiator meter  
had been stolen. He suspected the  
accused, and at once approached  
him. The accused replied that he  
knew where the article could be  
found, and took him to an opium  
divan in Reclamation Street. It  
was found to be there. Then the  
accused offered to find the man who  
really did the stealing. He took  
the driver with him to a hillside at  
the back of the Mongkok Tui  
Police Station, where, after climb-  
ing a little way up, he signed the  
complaint, and ran away. He  
was arrested later in Hong Kong.

His Lordship passed sentence of  
three months' hard labour on the  
charge of receiving stolen prop-  
erty.



## H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

(Continued from Page 4.)  
Budget, and both him and his officers for the great help that they have given me in the final preparation of it. I also thank the Senior Unofficial Member, and through him the other Unofficial Members, for their congratulations on the efforts made to deal with what is admittedly a very difficult Budget, in the circumstances. The tribute is generous. I also thank the Members for their careful consideration of it, and for their helpful comments and criticism. In view of the difficulties involved, and the necessity for increasing taxation, I feel gratified that there has been so little criticism.

## Serious Need For Economy.

It has been my misfortune in two successive years, in Malaya and here, to submit a Budget in which it has been necessary severely to restrict expenditure with a view to reducing the deficit on the year's working. In both places prosperous years have been succeeded by lean ones, with the result that serious need for economy has arisen. In spite of the most careful pruning of the estimates for 1931, it is impossible to avoid extra taxation unless there is to be a dangerous loss in efficiency.

## Keeping up the Standard.

Coming to Hong Kong a little over two months ago, I was struck by the fact that here, as in Malaya, the country possesses considerable amenities, which it has been fortunate enough to acquire on a low basis of taxation. This high standard was attained in both places as a result of prosperous years, and now that we have happened on lean years it is a question whether that standard should be allowed to deteriorate or whether, in order to maintain it, some measure of additional taxation should be imposed. I cannot believe that the Colony would choose the former alternative. Any increase of taxation is unpleasant, but if high standards are to be maintained, and I do not believe that this Colony cannot afford to maintain them, it is unavoidable. It has been argued that the cost of living is high in Hong Kong, and therefore an increased rate of taxation is not justified. I doubt whether any Chancellor of the Exchequer would be prepared to accept such an argument. It is necessary to consider to what such high cost of living is due. Is it due merely to an increase in the cost of necessities and a certain measure of luxuries, or is it due to people having adopted a more luxurious style of living. If, as I believe, the latter is largely responsible for the present high cost of living, I cannot possibly accept the argument as a reason for imposing no further taxation.

## Cost of Living Compared.

Comparisons are proverbially odious, especially if they refute one's own arguments. After 32 years of Malaya, I am convinced that the cost of living is higher there than here, and that taxation, though far from burdensome there, is markedly higher than in this Colony. To take one important form of taxation which looms large in the discussions on this bill, the municipal assessment and rates both in Singapore and Penang total 22 per cent. inclusive of general water rate and education rate. In Singapore there is in addition a 2 per cent. improvement rate, but of course this is earmarked for special purposes.

## A Forced Increase.

The revised figure for Hong Kong of 17 per cent. inclusive compares, therefore, very favourably with this class of taxation in Malaya. I confess that I had made up my mind that it should not be raised by more than 3 per cent., and steadily resisted suggestions to adopt a greater rise. After combing the estimates very carefully, however, I was forced to the conclusion that, if any lower rate were imposed, the deficit on next year's working would be higher than is justified, and I reluctantly came to the conclusion that a 4 per cent. rise was necessary. Before deciding on this increase I explored other possible sources of revenue, but there appeared to be none which would produce the necessary amount required, or the incidence of which would be equally equitable. The difficulty of finding a more equitable form may be gathered from the unofficial reports of the recent meeting of the General Committee of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce. Three sources were recommended—a tax on betting! This has some merit and need not be irreversibly turned down, but I think that it is advisable to see the effect of it in England. In any event 20 per cent. would kill it and a reasonable percentage would not bring a huge amount. Meanwhile the amusement tax will be applied to the Racing Club. I consider that the proposed tax on jewellery would be almost impossible to enforce and any attempt to do so would in my opinion be doomed to failure. The proposal regarding buses and ferries entails the raising of the cost of essential services, also raising the cost of living. It must be remembered that we tax seats in buses and if the services were let for tender, this would have to be taken into account. In a Colony where there is no income tax assessment seems a fair form of taxation. In this connection, it must be remembered that the military contribution is high, and that of the 4 per cent. additional rate, we only actually receive 3.2 per cent. directly for revenue purposes.

## Military Contribution.

As regards the military contribution it has been suggested that we should try to get the percentage reduced. Efforts have been made in the past to get a revision but with little success and I may say at once that in my opinion there is not the slightest chance of inducing the stony hearted Home Treasury to agree to any material reduction. I may remind you that we only pay 20 per cent. so long as the cost of the garrison costs more than that. It must also be remembered that the cost is almost entirely on a sterling basis and that the sterling value of our contribution is adversely affected by the low dollar. The reply to the question regarding the exemption of the profit on exchange is that the matter is still under consideration.

## Taxes on Shipping.

As regards the increase in shipping charges, I fully appreciate that it is undesirable to make such charges unduly heavy in a port like this, which depends so much on its shipping for its prosperity. At the same time, the argument can be overdone, and there is no reason either why fair charges should not be imposed, or why the imposition of such fair charges should have any marked influence on the shipping using this port.

The additional amount to be paid, when spread over the large number of ships affected, will mean a very small average increase. The present charges were imposed when the dollar was 2s. 6½d., and the revised rates are no more than a fair view of the fall in the dollar.

It may be an exaggeration to say that most of the dollar companies have raised their rates, but some undoubtedly have, while a large number of the ships using the port belong to companies working on a sterling basis, which certainly cannot reasonably complain of what I am convinced is a perfectly equitable rise. I have not considered whether it is possible to discriminate in respect of buoy charges between coastal and ocean going steamers. I doubt it but will go into the matter.

## Further Consideration.

As regards the suggestion that the fees be reduced if the position at some future date justifies it, I can only say that I cannot possibly give an undertaking which would fetter my successors, but of course it is always open to reconsider any form of taxation at any time, should it appear to be either too onerous or impolitic.

## The Salaries Question.

As regards expenditure, naturally there have been considerable increased dollar cost of sterling salaries, and of purchases made in sterling. I can assure honourable members, however, that the greatest economy consistent with efficiency is being exercised.

Apart from a decision not to fill certain posts which are at present vacant, the question of actual retrenchment of posts must await the recommendations of the Retrenchment Commission. The members of that Commission are dealing with the question very thoroughly, and Government is most grateful to them. I trust that their enquiries will lead to further economies.

I may say, with reference to the suggestion of my Hon. friend Mr. Braga regarding local recruiting, that it is a question that I have had under consideration ever since I came here and I have not only asked the Retrenchment Committee to consider it but I have instructed several departments to see how far it is possible to achieve something on these lines.

## Education Expense.

Education costs as a good deal, but if the present policy is to be maintained, the cost is unavoidable. At the same time, I have given a great deal of thought to the question of our policy, and confess to some doubts whether it is entirely justified. I have been struck by the high age of a number of the pupils at our schools. It seems to me that, owing to our present system, they stay there for three to four years more than is justified. Naturally the longer the boys are kept at schools, the fees at which are admittedly too low to cover the cost, the greater is the expenditure incurred by Government. Further assistance to Vernacular and Government Aided schools might be considered if economies can be effected in other directions. I think that the whole of the educational policy must be overhauled, and I propose to ask the advice of the Board of Education.

## Medical Campaign Held Up.

With regard to the Medical Department, I am sorry that our financial position does not enable Dr. Wellington to go as far as he had hoped in his work of improvement and extension of this department. Certain new appointments were, however, approved in connection with this year's estimates, and some have actually been made. It is proposed to defer others for the present. The appointment, however, of a venereal disease specialist will be proceeded with, and I trust will be made in the near future. I am particularly anxious that this branch should be improved, as there is no doubt that, in the matter of social hygiene, Hong Kong is distinctly backward.

## Public Works Department.

In the Public Works Department certain votes under annually recurrent expenditure have been reduced, but I am satisfied that the reduced votes should be sufficient to maintain the necessary amount of efficiency. As regards Public Works Extraordinary as the Colonial Secretary pointed out in his speech, very little new work is contemplated, apart from that, the cost of which is to be paid for from loans. Although the amount allotted for Public Works Extraordinary has been restricted to 2½ millions, I am in hopes that it will be possible to spend the whole of this during the year. The amount usually provided is rarely if ever entirely spent. No doubt some of you may be disappointed that it has not been possible to commence further desirable works, and I share in that disappointment.

In particular for instance I was very anxious to see a new ward built at the Kowloon Government Hospital, and had made up my mind to make provision for this, but I am afraid that I must defer my hopes for another year. Meanwhile, the maternity hospital, there is a large work will be proceeded with. While it is not proposed to start any new road of importance, con-

siderable sums have been entered for general extensions and improvements to roads. Hong Kong is fortunate in having a considerable mileage of excellent roads, though I cannot but feel that some have proved mere additions to the amenities of the place, rather than of a developmental nature. No doubt the hopes of development in certain directions have been retarded, owing to general depression.

## Hospitals Needed.

The Colony appears to me to have greater needs in the matter of such institutions, as the Government Civil Hospital, the gaol, the hospital. It is proposed to provide for the new Government Civil Hospital and the gaol out of loan funds and an application will be made for assistance for these works from the Colonial Development Fund. I trust that the application will be successful.

## Water Supply.

The Colony has passed through many anxious times in respect of its water supply, but I have been greatly impressed by the success with which this essential problem has been tackled. I need hardly say that there is no intention of slowing down on approved schemes and provision will be made for them out of loan funds. The further extensions of the schemes have been submitted to the Secretary of State, and I expect a special expert to arrive here early in the forthcoming year to assist us with his advice. This is considered desirable, in view of the magnitude of our proposals, and it is possible to arrange for this advice at a lower fee than would ordinarily be possible, owing to the visit of such an expert to Singapore, who will be able to combine his work in the two colonies in one visit to the East.

## Government Salaries.

The burning question of Government salaries was fully discussed last June and has been touched on to-day. It looms large in the public eye. I am satisfied that the basic proposals were on the whole equitable, but feel that the abnormal rate of exchange is perhaps unduly favourable. I considered the question of putting a low limit on the rate of conversion of sterling salaries into dollars, but was of opinion that it was unwise to do this at once. On the one hand, local cost of living might have increased in proportion to the fall in the dollar, while the dollar itself might have gone up. Neither of these eventualities has occurred, and it is necessary to review the position. I am prepared, subject to the Secretary of State's approval, to agree to the suggestion regarding sterling salaries into dollars. Half will be converted at the current rate, or more properly speaking, the Treasury rate, of exchange, and the other half at 1s. 6d. to the dollar. The estimates next year have been prepared on

the basis of a 1s. 4d. dollar, and it is estimated that the adoption of this proposal will effect a reduction of \$388,888 in the expenditure, thus reducing the estimate deficit to a more reasonable figure. It is too late to make the necessary alterations in the estimates without causing undue delay in submitting them to the Secretary of State, but I give you an assurance that this basis will be adopted, subject to the Secretary of State's approval. I trust that this step will go some way to meeting the criticisms regarding the increase of the dollar emoluments of Government officers.

I thank the Unofficial Members for their assurance of the continuance of their whole hearted support. I felt confident of such support, but it is none the less gratifying to receive the assurance given.

## Hopes for the Future.

I am sorry that my first Budget in this Colony is not a more pleasant one, but with the restricted resources at my disposal, I have endeavoured to provide for adequate maintenance and for the upkeep of efficiency to a reasonably safe level. We have, so to speak, a good deal in hand, and will not suffer much if the rate of progress, which must naturally be commensurate with our resources, is somewhat slowed down. Meanwhile, I look forward with confidence to improved conditions, and am convinced that we need have no fear as regards the future prosperity of this Colony. (Applause.)

## PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The formal resolution, to move the second reading of—

A Bill to apply a sum not exceeding twenty-three million three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred and thirty-five dollars, to the Public Service for the year 1931,

was then put to the Council. His Excellency intimated that he would prefer members to propose amendments, if any, to specific clauses.

Dr. Kewell: Although Your Excellency has just told us that there is little likelihood of any reduction in the Military Contribution, I should like to request that the views of the Chinese community on the matter, as voiced by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, be brought before the Secretary of State.

His Excellency, in reply, stated that the best procedure to adopt would be to place all the speeches at the morning's Council before the Secretary of State. He could assure the Honourable member that this would be done.

The motion was then put forward, and carried unanimously, after which His Excellency declared the Council adjourned sine die.

## A NEW COLUMBIA PORTABLE

## "CADET" MODEL



AN ASTONISHING NEW COLUMBIA PORTABLE — BUILT OF STEEL, YET LIGHT AND DAINITY FINISHED — AND AT A POPULAR PRICE. FITTED WITH AUTOMATIC STOP AND NEW NO. 15B SOUND BOX.

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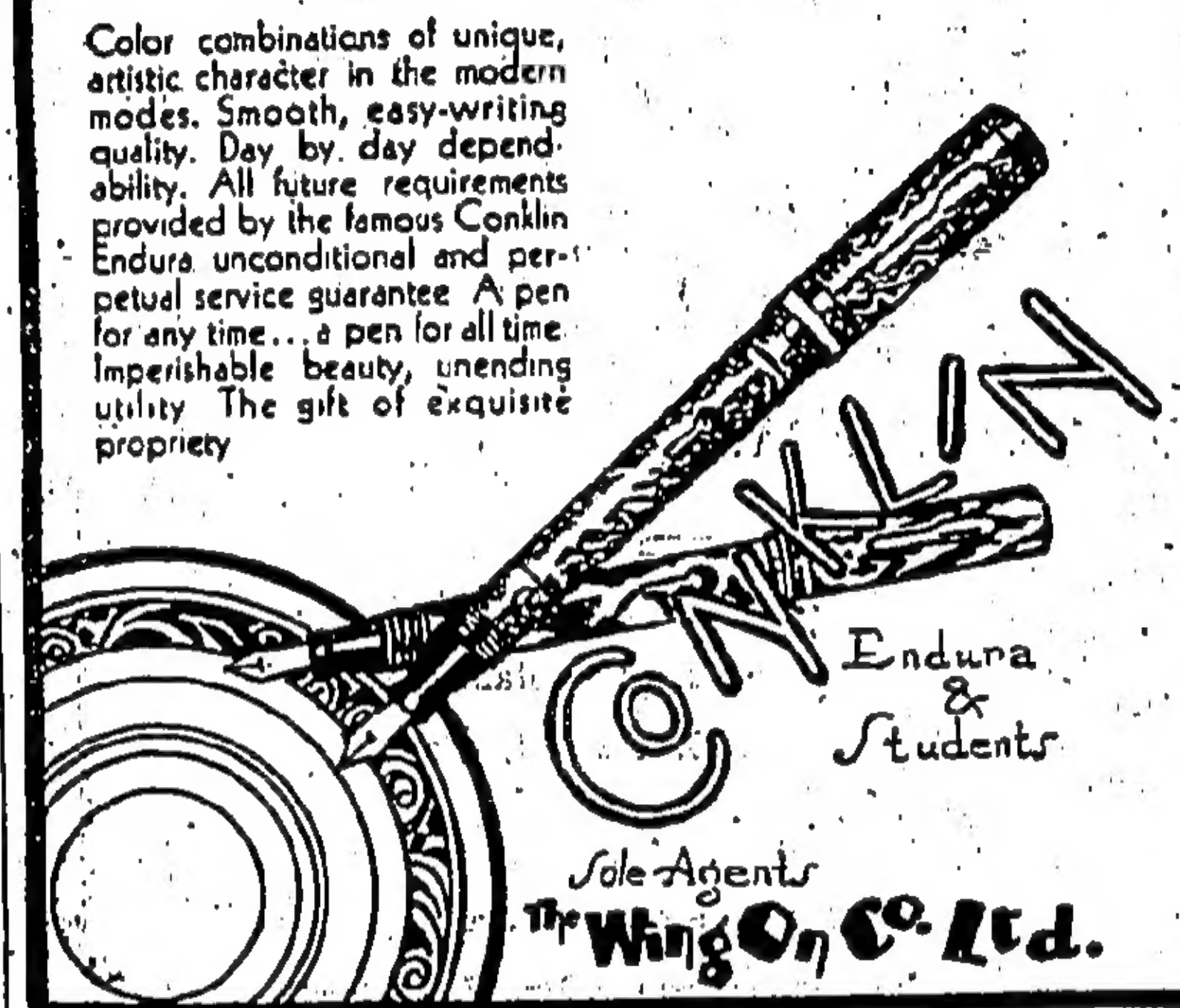
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SHOWROOMS: ICE HOUSE STREET (Near Star Ferry),  
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AND AT THE WORKS: WEST POINT.

## CENTRAL THEATRE

Commencing SUNDAY, Oct. 26.

The Greatest Screen Drama Of All Time!

THE GREAT JOURNEY'S END



What Do Men Talk About  
Before Rushing Into Battle?

These two—once young and untried, the other old and battle-hard—discuss surprising things far removed from the terror they are about to face.

ALL TALKING

From the Play by R. C. SHERRIFF

Directed by JAMES WHALE

With Colin Clive, Ian MacLaren, David Manners,  
Anthony Bushell, Billy Bevan,  
Tiffany-Gibson, and others.

A TIFFANY PRODUCTION

BRITISH ACTORS — BRITISH AUTHOR  
BRITISH DIRECTOR.







MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1930.

## SECOND AROUND PACIFIC CRUISE OF THE

## S.S. MALOLO

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## MATSON LINER S.S. MALOLO

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excursions at ports of call under direction of the  
American Express Company.LEAVING HONG KONG AT 5.00 P.M.  
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Vessel will call at

MANILA, BANGKOK, SINGAPORE,  
BATAVIA, MACASSAR, SYDNEY,  
WELLINGTON, AUCKLAND, SUVA,  
PAGO PAGO.arriving at HONOLULU, December 14,  
and at SAN FRANCISCO, December 19.Fares include all sightseeing expenses at intermediate ports.  
Desirable accommodations available to all ports.

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## POST OFFICE NOTICE.

List of ships expected to be in wireless communication with  
Hong Kong to-day—Koursk, Benalla, Talkyu Maru, Deli Maru,  
Hozan Maru, Waishang, Kwangchow, Kingyuan, Chungking, Taiyang,  
Ionic Star.

## INWARD MAILS

From	Per
Calcutta and Straits	MONDAY, OCTOBER 20
Japan	Tuesday, OCTOBER 21
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan, and Shanghai (San Francisco September 26)	Wednesday, OCTOBER 22
Amoy and Swatow	Thursday, OCTOBER 23
Europe via Suez (Letters and Papers, London, Sept. 25 and Parcels, Sept. 18)	Friday, OCTOBER 24
Java	Saturday, OCTOBER 25
Canada, U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan, and Shanghai (Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 2)	Sunday, OCTOBER 26

## OUTWARD MAILS

For	Per
Japan, Honolulu, *Canada California, C. and S. America and *Europe via San Francisco	MONDAY, OCTOBER 20
Samshui and Wuchow	Tuesday, OCTOBER 21
Shanghai and *Europe via Siberia	Wednesday, OCTOBER 22
*Manila, *Australia and *New Zealand via Thursday Island	Thursday, OCTOBER 23
Australia and New Zealand via Manila and Thursday Island	Friday, OCTOBER 24
Java via Batavia	Saturday, OCTOBER 25
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Sunday, OCTOBER 26
Saigon, Canada, U.S.A., C. and S. America and *Europe via Victoria, B.C.	Monday, OCTOBER 27

\*Superscribed correspondence only.

## LOCAL BASEBALL CHAMPION.

Japanese & Chinese in  
Battle Royal.

## FINEST GAME STAGED.

Easily the finest baseball game seen in this Colony was the one staged yesterday at the Caroline diamond when the Japanese outfit went to wrest the championship from South China.

Both teams were of full strength, and from the pitching of the first ball it could be seen that none was going to give away anything. Airtight pitching and fielding were the order of the day, and all ball craft known to the players was tried out.

The great game of the season was fought in the presence of over thousand fans, both camps being of equal strength. Japanese maidens, little boys and girls and sedate business men turned out in full force to root for their side; while in the Chinese camp the same support was found.

Daisy cutters, shoestring catches, double-killing, drops, in-curves and out-curves were pulled off by both sides. But taking the pitchers of the respective teams. Koga, the Japanese pitching ace, had a bigger variety. He is a psychologist. He knew what sort of a dish to suit each individual batter, with the result that he sent eight of the Chinese players away from the field via the strike-out route.

Losing the toss, the Japanese went into bat first. Ed. Chang, who twirled for the Chinese, showed good form in this stanza, and assisted by an airtight field, he retired the Nipponites with a blank. The Chinese registered a single tally in the first entry to bat. Both teams then settled down to a ball game never yet seen in this Colony. No quarter was given, and the superb pitching of Koga asserted itself. His outcurves just simply had the Chinese guessing, and every time they stretch out the willow to connect, they found the pill just dodged by.

No scoring was done further by either side until the third frame, when the Japanese went in to bat. Ed. Chang was then pitching wild. Murata and Miki both received a walking ticket to base, and when Suzuki went in, he sogged the longest drive of the day to no man's land. He made the home circuit with plenty of time to spare, incidentally bringing his two teammates home. With three runs to the good, the Japanese settled down to play a calm and scientific game.

In the sixth canto, the Japanese had to concede another run through error, and the greatest excitement of the day came when the Chinese batted in the last canto. With the score standing at 8-2, things looked rosy for the South China pack at least to tie the score. Two men got on base and with no one down, the situation was most critical to the Japanese, but their outfield were all on toes, and no fly could ever expect to get past them. Tricky pitching by Koga, and the dark signals given out by Hachuma contributed to the Chinese defeat. With all the men at base, the Chinese were made to retire without registering a single tally.

Thus in a great fight where joss played no part, the Japanese won the Championship of the Colony after trying for seven years. The honour is so much the greater in that they have not lost a single game throughout the season. With the team they have at present, the Japanese may well consider themselves invincible.

The line up and scores follow

	Japanese	South China
Ip Pak-wa, 3rd	4	0 0 0 0 3 1 1
Fau Ka-ping	2nd	4 0 0 0 0 2 0 0
Chow Young	1st	3 1 2 1 0 3 0 0
Li Chuang	c	3 0 0 0 0 4 0 0
Pung King	ss	3 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
Shoung ss	3	0 0 0 0 0 5 0 1
Y. T. Chan 1st	3	0 0 0 0 0 5 0 1
Chu Kwok-lin	rf	1 0 2 0 1 1 0 0
Ed. Chang	p	3 0 2 0 0 2 4 0
Milton Geo	rf	2 0 0 0 1 0 0 2
Tsai Pin-fun	cf	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Innings	29	2 4 4 0 21 9 3
Japanese	13	3 4 5 6 7
Basehits	0	3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
South China	1	0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
Basehits	1	1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
First on Base	—	—
Struck Out by Ed. Chang	2	By Koga 8
Double plays	Chow to Ed. Chang	Gao to Pau
Wild Pitches	Chang 1	—
Home runs	Suzuki	—
Two base hits	Ed. Chang	Chow Young

## TEXACO LOSE GAME TO THE KIAORAS.

Before a very small attendance, who, for the most part were merely "casual" spectators, the Texaco nine lost to the Kiaoras in the Baseball League on Saturday by eight runs.

Lack of practice, coupled with a depleted team, were largely responsible for the heavy defeat of the Texaco side.

The Kiaoras, on the other hand, were in good form to a man and were keen as mustard on the diamond. Blanking their opponents for four consecutive innings and chalking twelve runs for themselves, the Kiaoras had as good as won the game from the very commencement.

The outstanding player on the field was C. C. Leung, the "K" short-stop who connected for 3 three-baggers during the game.

The teams lined up as follows:

	Texaco	Kiaoras
Russakoff	p	W. C. Leung
Arault	c	Peter Wong
Zafra	1b	C. K. Leung
Grover	2b	W. K. Shing
Simmie	ss	C. C. Leung
Barros	3b	K. M. Mak
Lawrence	cf	Yuen Sang
Howard	rf	Wong Tape
Hass	lf	Y. S. Fung

Score by innings:—

Texaco 0 0 0 0 3 3 1 — 7

Kiaoras 3 5 0 4 2 1 — 15

## GUNNER'S DEATH.

## ALLEGED SUICIDE IN MILITARY HOSPITAL.

Gunner Walter Seal, aged about 25 years of age, died in the Military Hospital, Bowen Road, on Friday as the result, it is alleged, of an overdose of Lysoal. He had been in hospital for some weeks and was apparently well on the road to recovery, so that the news of his alleged rash act came as a great shock to his officers and comrades in the 12th Heavy Battery, Royal Artillery.

The funeral took place at Happy Valley Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, the Army Chaplain officiating at the graveside, whilst Gunners G. W. Bateman and C. W. Morris acted as comrades of the deceased.

The sad event has naturally cast a gloom over R.A. circles, Gunner Seal being a good footballer and generally popular with both officers and the rank and file of his unit.

## JUNK CALENDARS.

Outstanding in an effective window display at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Chater Road, are the 1931 Chinese Junk Calendars, which are most attractive. Suspended on a small horizontal bamboo, by red braid, the calendar is surrounded by the painting of a junk, such as a Foochow Pole Junk, a Hangchow Bay trader, a Chinese trader, a Wenchow trader, or a Chusan Archipelago fisher. All the paintings have been well executed by Mr. Ivon A. Donnelly. At the sides of the calendars hang either two red or two yellow tassels.

The date block is attached to a neatly coloured sash, which in turn, is attached to the calendar, thus completing a picturesque combination. The old-time favourite Chinese blue Ginger Jar calendars are also exhibited, while new features are the Lantern calendars and Chinese Scroll calendars for 1931.

## EXCHANGES.

## TO-DAY'S QUOTATIONS.

On London	1/3 1/2
Bank, wire	1/3 1/2
Bank, on demand	1/3 1/2
Bank, 4 months' sight	1/3 1/2
Credita, 4 months' sight	1/4 3/16
Documentary, 4 months' sight	1/4 5/16
On Paris	800
Credita, 4 months' sight	840
On New York	31 1/2
Credita, 60 days' sight	32 1/2
On Bombay	87
On demand	87
On Calcutta	87
On Singapore	55 1/2
On demand	55 1/2
On Manila	63 1/2
On demand	63 1/2
On Shanghai	Tls. 80 1/2
On demand	9% dis.
On Yokohama	63 1/2
Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate)	1/4 1/2
Silver (per oz.)	16 1/2
Bar Silver in Hong Kong	Par.
Copper Cash	Nominal
Copper Cents	3% prem.
Rate of Native Interest	3 1/2% p.a.
Chinese Sub. Coin	25% dis.
Hong Kong Sub. Coin	Par.

## LONDON EXCHANGES

Rugby, Yesterday	123.87 1/2
New York	4.86
Brussels	34.84 1/2
Geneva	25.02
Amsterdam	12.07
Milan	92.79 1/2
Berlin	20.43
Stockholm	18.09 1/2
Copenhagen	18.16
Oslo	34.45 1/2
Vienna	163 1/2
Prague	193 1/8
Helsingfors	48.60
Madrid	108.25
Lisbon	376
Athens	376
Bucharest	478
Rio	478
Buenos Aires	48 1/2 Nom.
Montevideo	39 1/2
Bombay	1/5 15/16
Shanghai	1/7 1/4
Hong Kong	1/8 9/16
Yokohama	2/0 1/2
Silver Sport and Forward	16%

—British Wireless Service.

## BACK TO JAIL.

## INDIAN CONGRESS LEADER RE-ARRESTED.

## SEDITIONARY SPEECH.

Allahabad, Yesterday. Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the All-India Congress, who only recently was released from jail, was re-arrested as he was leaving a meeting, owing to the speech he made in the morning.—Reuter.

## EX-LORD ADVOCATE.

## DEATH OF THE RT. HON. A. M. McROBERT.

## CONSERVATIVE M.P.

Rugby, Yesterday. The death occurred suddenly last night of the Rt. Hon. Alexander Munro McRobert, M.A., LL.B., Conservative Member of Parliament for East Renfrew since 1924.—Reuter. [Mr. McRobert was born at Paisley in 1873, the son of a was made Extra Advocate-Depute in 1917, and Advocate-Depute in 1919. From 1926-29 he was Solicitor-General for Scotland and Lord Advocate for Scotland in the previous Government.]

## HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE

## Opening Daily Official Quotations 20th Oct., 1930.

STOCK	Buyers	Sellers	Rate	Notes	Min. year	Last dividend and when paid
Banks.						
Hong Kong Bank .....	\$	1617	...	Dec.	Interim 25 s/d 1929 ex. 191 = \$44.43	Aug. 11, 30
Chartered Bank .....	\$	...	17 1/2	Dec.	Interim 7 1/2 s/d 1929	Sep. — 30
Mercantile Bk., A.B. & C. ..	\$	...	25 1/2	Dec.	Interim 30 s/d 1929 less 17 1/2 s/d	Sep. — 30
Bank of Asia .....	\$	111	...	Dec.	3 s/d for 1929	Feb. 23, 30
Insurance.						
Canton Ins. ....	\$	1080	1000	Dec.	Final 37 s/d for 1929 Interim 31 1/2 s/d 1929	May 15, 30
Union Ins. ....	\$	445	450	Dec.	Interim 16 s/d for 1929	May 30, 30
China Underwriters ..	\$	21	...	Dec.	None	...
China Fire Ins. ....	\$	400	...	Dec.	Final 30 bonus 30 s/d Interim 31 s/d 1929	May 30, 30
H. K. Fire Ins. ....	\$	...	1080	Dec.	37 s/d for 1929	Mar. 25, 30
Shipping.						
Douglases .....	\$	...	27 1/2	Dec.	Last dividend for 1929	...
H. K. Steamboats .....	\$	36 1/2	...	Dec.	31-50 for 1929 (12 s/d ex. 2 1/2 on preferred) Interim 16 s/d 1929	Mar. 4, 30
Indo-China (Pref.) .....	\$	...	40	Dec.	Last dividend for 1921	June 10, 29
(Def.) .....	\$	...	30	Dec.	Interim T. 3 s/d 1930 (Coupon No. 56 free)	...
Shell Transport .....	\$	...	31 1/2	Dec.	17 1/2 s/d for 1929	July 8, 30
Union Waterboats .....	\$	...	31 1/2	Dec.	31-50 for 1929	Mar. 10, 30
Mining.						
Benguet .....	\$	...	370	Dec.	Interim 15 bonus 8 (making 50 centavos s/d 1929)	Sept. 30, 30
Kailan Mining Ad. 1/-	\$	...	37 1/2	Oct.	Interim 1/- free 17 1/2 s/d (Coupon No. 57 year 33-5-30)	June — 30
Langkat .....	\$	...	9 1/2	Jan.	T. 0-50 for year 31-16-30	May 8, 30
Sh'hai Exploration .....	\$	1.80	...	Dec.	None	...
Loans .....	\$	...	...	Dec.	Interim T. 0-21 s/d 1930 (for 1929)	July 1, 30
Rauha .....	\$	...	24 1/2	Mar.	Interim 31 s/d 1931	Sept. 26, 30
Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.						
H. K. & K. Wharves .....	\$	160	...	Dec.	30 s/d for 1929	Mar. 13, 30
H. K. & W. Docks .....	\$	...	92	Dec.	Last dividend for 1924	...
China Provident (old) ..	\$	3.15	...	Dec.	Last dividend for 1924	...
(new) .....	\$	2.40	...	Dec.	Interim T. 3 s/d 1930	Sept. 13, 30
Hongkew .....	\$	285	...	Dec.	T. 0-50 for 1929	Feb. 25, 30
N. Engineering .....	\$	...	7.80	Apr.	T. 7 for year 30-4-30	July 30, 30
Shanghai Docks .....	\$	122	...	...	...	...
Lands, Hotels & Buildings.						
H. K. & S. Hotels .....	\$	11.80	...	Dec.	30 cents for 1929	Apr. 7, 30
H.K. Lands (old) .....	\$	702	...	Dec.	Interim 32 s/d 1930	Aug. 8, 30
(new) .....	\$	...	75 1/2	Dec.	Interim T. 3 s/d 1930	July 31, 30
Rights .....	\$	14.30	(14 1/2/30)	Dec.	30 cents for 1929	May 7, 30
Shanghai Lands .....	\$	305	...	Dec.	Interim 30 cents s/d 1930	Sept. 4, 30
Humphreys .....	\$	...	16	Dec.	30 s/d for year 23-3-30	July 21, 30
H. K. Realities .....	\$	8.40	...	Feb.	...	...
Chinese Estates .....	\$	...	37	...	...	...
Cotton Mills.						
Ewo Cottons .....	\$	12	...	Dec.	Final T. 3 s/d 1929 (T. 5-25 old) for half year T. 1-2-4 new 30-3-30	Mar. 17, 30
Shanghai Cotton .....	\$	...	82	Oct.	...	May 22, 30
Zoong Sing .....	\$	...	10 1/2	June	T. 0-30 for year 30-6-30	Pending
Public Utilities.						
H. K. Tramways .....	\$	17 1/2	17.70	Dec.	Interim 40 cents s/d 1930 (30 cts. on old) for year (viets on new) 30-4-30	Aug. 27, 30
Peak Tram (old) .....	\$	...	18.60	Apr.	30 s/d for 1929	June 18, 30
Star Ferry .....	\$	81 1/2	80 1/2	Dec.	30 s/d for 1929	Feb. 14, 30
China Light (old) .....	\$	25.10	...	Sept.	Int. 25 cts. s/d yr. 30-9-30	May 13, 30
(new) .....	\$	24.30	...	Dec.	32-50 for 1929	Mar. 13, 30
H. K. Electric .....	\$	78 1/2	...	Dec.	None	...
Macao .....	\$	...	23	Dec.	None	...
Sandakan Light .....	\$	...	11 1/2	June	Int. (40 cents) s/d 1930 (10 cents)	Aug. 1, 30
H.K. Tel. fully paid ..	\$	...	22 1/2	Dec.	T. 0-50 for 1929	Feb. 25, 30
part paid .....	\$	...	22 1/2	Dec.	11 1/2 on preference shares Subject to income tax	Feb. 6, 30
China Bus .....	\$	...	10 1/2	Sept.	...	...
S'pore Tractors (Ord.) ..	\$	7 1/2	...	...	...	...
(Pref.) .....	\$	...	10 1/2	...	...	...
Industrials.						
China Sugars .....	\$	85 1/2	...	Dec.	In Liquidation.	...
Malayan Sugars .....	\$	...	37	Dec.	P. 2-3 for 1928	Apr. 11, 30
Calif. Mag. Ord. .....	\$	...	10 1/2	Dec.	T. 0-50 (P. 1-10-29) 7 months 1929	Apr. 30, 30
(Pref.) .....	\$	...	10.40	...	...	...
Canton Ice .....	\$	3	...	July	None	...
Cementa (com.) .....	\$	...	17 1/2	Dec.	30 cents on old (44 cents on new)	Mar. 19, 30
(old) .....	\$	13	...	...	...	...
(new) .....	\$	...	5.30	Dec.	Last dividend for 1924	...
H. K. Ropes .....	\$	10 1/2	10.60	Dec.	...	...
United Asbestos .....	\$	...	5	...	...	...
Stores, &c.						
Dairy Farms C/R .....	\$	26.80	...	Dec.	31-50 for 1929	Mar. 14, 30
Rights .....	\$	24.80	...	...	...	...
Watsons .....	\$	11.70	...	Oct.	70 cents for year 31-10-29	Mar. 31, 30
Der A. Wings .....	\$	...	1	...	...	...
Lanc. Crawford .....	\$	8.80	3.00	Feb.	Last dividend for year 23-2-28	May 15, 30
Mackintosh .....	\$	...	19	Feb.	32 for year 23-2-30	...
Sincere .....	\$	...	11.60	...	...	...
Wm. Powells .....	\$	...	2.85	Feb.	20 cents for year 23-2-29	June 10, 29
Miscellaneous.						
H.K. Amusement .....	\$	...	23	Mar.	31-50 on Preferred (31-50 on Interim) 31-2-30	Sept. 27, 30
Ch. Entertainment .....	\$	...	10	Dec.	None	...
H. K. Constructions ..	\$	...	2.40	Dec.	None	...
B. Ind. Gov. Bonds .....	\$	3 1/2	...	...	...	...
H. K. Govt. Loans .....	\$	7 1/2	...	...	Interest half yearly	...



## CONFUCIUS DAY.

## LOCAL CELEBRATION OF BIRTHDAY.

## YOUNG CHUNG GIRLS.

On Saturday the ceremony of the birthday of Confucius was celebrated by the Young Chung Girls' College in the Ho Shing Theatre.

There were numerous guests present. The worship of Confucius was observed, and then a speech was given by Dr. Chan Chung-yuen, who said a great deal about the teachings of Confucius.

The "Yong Die Mo," an old-fashioned dance, was executed by eight girls to the accompaniment of Chinese music. The scenery at the back of the stage was made by the pupils in accordance with the stories, the work being beautifully done.

The "Ng Fung Mo," also an old-fashioned dance, was skillfully acted by five girls, and some pretty acting followed by the kindergarten pupils.

The performance was greatly appreciated.

In the afternoon, the "Lung Fu Toa Keung Kung," was played by the actors of "Yan Shau Lin." The theatre was full, and the celebration was a great success.

## LESSON SERMON.

## FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, HONG KONG.

"Doctrine of Atonement" was the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all the Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, October 19.

The Golden Text was: "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2: 1-2).

Among the citations which comprised the Lesson-Sermon was the following from the Bible: "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, is able to save to the uttermost them that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to intercede for them." (Hebrews 9: 11-12).

The Lesson-Sermon also included the following passage from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy: "Jesus aided in reconciling man to God by giving man a truer sense of Love, the divine Principle of Jesus' teachings, and this truer sense of Love redeems man from the law of matter, sin and death by the law of Spirit—the law of divine Love." (p. 19.)

## ROUND THE CINEMAS

## MANY M-G-M CELEBRITIES IN "FREE AND EASY."

## ALL-TALKING COMEDY SATIRE

An impressive array of stars, players and directors was gathered to make up the cast of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's all-talking comedy, "Free and Easy," which is showing at the Queen's Theatre.

The picture, a satire of Hollywood studio life, makes use of such well-known screen names as Buster Keaton, who makes his talking and singing debut in the production, Anita Page, Trixie Friganza, Robert Montgomery, Edgar Dearing, David Burton, William Collier, Cecil B. De Mille, Fred Niblo, Dorothy Sebastian, William Haines, Karl Dane, Marion Shilling, Lionel Barrymore and Lettie Howell.

The picture contains a number of elaborate revue scenes staged by Sammy Lee, former Ziegfeld dance director, as well as a comic opera sequence in which Buster Keaton and Trixie Friganza play opposite each other as king and queen, and sing a hilarious duet in which the only lyrics are the four words, "Oh King, Oh Queen," the rest of the song being interpreted by gestures and facial expressions. Other songs heard are a solo by Keaton called "Free and Easy," which he accompanies by a new version of the Charleston, "It Must Be You," sung by Robert Montgomery and Lettie Howell; and "Down in Arkansas."

Moments of "Free and Easy" which are claimed to be funnier than anything yet seen in a talking comedy, include a sequence in which Karl Dane is blown up in a cave when a charge of dynamite is set off at an inopportune time; a scene in which Miss Friganza is given a rehearsal for a part in pictures; Keaton's appearance in opera sequence as a soldier of the Guard; and the interlude in which Lionel Barrymore's scene is ruined by an unexpected interruption.

## "IT'S A GREAT LIFE."

A second generation of famous personalities continue to pour into the movies. The latest of this class is Jeanne Wood, daughter of Sam Wood, the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer director who made the Duncan Sisters talking and singing picture, "It's a Great Life," which will open at the Queen's Theatre on Wednesday.

Jeanne Wood, though successful on the stage for some time, consistently refused to appear before the camera until she had learned all the fundamentals of acting. However, her father assured the 17-year-old beauty that she need wait no longer. Hence her appearance

with the famous and comical Duncans. Miss Wood has done everything on the stage from characters to leads. She underwent a very strenuous training course at the Pasadena Community Playhouse. Her ability carried her steadily upward to featured roles in "Why Not?" and "Redemption." It is from these that she came to work under her father's direction.

"It's a Great Life," a story of vaudeville life, contains a number of catchy popular songs and was filmed with technicolor sequences.

"A DANGEROUS WOMAN"

The strange, impenetrable mystery that envelops the jungle region of Central East Africa was brought to the eyes and ears of the audience at the Central Theatre yesterday with the showing of "A Dangerous Woman," a picture of the high standard which Paramount has established in the audible field.

Through the focus of this realistic jungle panorama the audience beholds a rugged plot, incomparable acting, and free-flowing comedy.

The locale of the picture is a British outpost set in the jungle country near a negro tribal village. Clive Brook plays the representative of his fatherland and Bactanova is his Russian wife. Neil Hamilton is cast in the role of Brook's brother who is ensnared by the romantic wiles of his comely sister-in-law, and Leslie Fenton is another Briton who succumbs to the witchery of this man-hunting woman who has seemingly "gone native" under the influence of Africa's mystic jungle enchantment.

The sparkling comedy parts are provided by Snitz Edwards as a native negro chieftain and Clyde Cook as the faithful Cockney servant to Brook. These men are old-time favourites in humorous pre-tending.

"A Dangerous Woman" has an emotionally tumultuous climax which comes crashing through to the eyes and ears of the audience like a bull elephant through the "bush."

The play is based on the story by Margery H. Lawrence, which appeared in Cosmopolitan Magazine. Rowland V. Lee directed the picture.

"JOURNEY'S END."

No chances were taken by Tiffany Productions, Inc., with the technical detail and scenic investment in filming "Journey's End," the R. C. Sherriff war play that critics have termed the most sensational stage success of to-day.

Colonel Gordon Magee, perhaps the foremost authority in Hollywood on British and other foreign military regulations and atmosphere, was the technical adviser,

## GERMAN POLITICS.

## FASCISTS EXPELLED FROM REICHSTAG.

## THREAT TO KILL.

Berlin, Yesterday. Communists and Nazis, the German Fascists, attempted to turn Parliament into a bear garden at yesterday's Reichstag, sitting. Several members were expelled.

One Nazi threatened to kill a Socialist spokesman, a Munich Public Prosecutor, if he returned to Munich. The Opposition parties put down more than a dozen no confidence motions but pro-Government parties countered with an over-riding motion. The vote resulted in a Government victory by 318 to 236.

Loud cheers by the Centre party mingled with hisses by the opposition and Communists sang the "Internationale." The Nazis shouted out their slogan "Wake Up Germany."

Finally the Reichstag adopted an Amnesty Bill by 395 to 147. The measure affects a number of persons, including several concerned in political murders. An adjournment was made to December 12.—Reuter.

## SEDITION IN EGYPT.

## Cairo, Yesterday.

The Government has ordered the confiscation of La Patrie, the only newspaper which published the Wafd manifesto, on the ground that this publication was "calculated dangerously to imperil order and both European and Egyptian security."—Reuter.

with the aid of practically the entire staff and cast of the production. Nearly every member of "Journey's End" has seen the type of war service depicted, and this is an assurance of absolute perfection in detail.

James Whale directed this all-talking picture, recorded by R.C.A. Photophone, and coming soon to the Central Theatre. Whale is a war veteran and also directed the original London and New York stage productions of the play. Colin Clive, who created the original role of Stanhope in the first stage production, plays the same role in the screen version. He travelled from London to Hollywood to do it. His round trip involved twenty days of travelling for twenty-eight days of work before the camera. He had to be back in London on a definite date to resume the stage role.

George Pearson, supervisor of the entire filming, is one of the best known British directors and film producers. He has combined a lifetime of experience in both dramatic and film work in planning and making the talking picture of "Journey's End."

The story is the oddest in stage history. Without a woman in it, it has a compelling dramatic quality that makes it grip audiences. It has a love interest manifested only conversationally in dialogue between male characters regarding a girl who is never seen.

Besides Colin Clive, the cast includes Ian Maclaren, David Mannes, Anthony Bushell, Billy Bevan, Charles Gerrard, Thomas Whiteley, Jack Pitts, and Warner Klinger.

"THE LADY OF THE HAREM."

The Star Theatre is offering a famous musical play adapted to the silent film. The play is none other than "Hassan," by Elroy Flecker.

Persia, in the days of Eastern pomp and greed, is dominated by one man—the Caliph. His love for women and gold brings heavy taxation and discontent upon his subjects. This smouldering flame ignites to the flame of rebellion when Pervaneh, a Snow Virgin, is captured as a new recruit for the royal harem. Razi, her lover, gathers a select few in a haunt of the city underworld, and plans the overthrow of the kingdom.

Hassan, a humble confectioner, unheeded of the prevailing conditions, joins the band, more from the sorrow of broken love than anything else. The Caliph enters the den in disguise, but is imprisoned on suspicion. Hassan effects his escape and is given untold wealth in the Court of his lord. The cruelty, greed and remorselessness of the Caliph, however, opens the eyes of this son of the Thoms, and hasty words lead to his banishment.

The execution of Razi before Pervaneh is averted due to the rising of the populace with Hassan at their head. The overthrow of the Caliph and the reign of his successor then follow in swift sequences.

Delightful touches are interwoven in the picture, the scenes in which Hassan and Yasmin, a young flirtation of the suburbs, feature being full of interest and humour. The photography is good and the scenes in the palace lavishly to the extreme. An admirable picture!

## RADIO

## TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.

The following programme will be broadcast to-day from the Hong Kong Broadcasting Station Z.B.W. on a wavelength of 355 metres:—

5 p.m.—Chinese Studio Concert.

7 p.m.—European Programme of Records supplied by Messrs. Moutrie & Co.

Children's Overture (Quiller). New Light: Symphony Orch., 22098.

The Fairy Adventures of Molly and Jack. Little Brown Owl, The Cuckoo.

8 p.m.—Victor Concert Band, 22044.

7.30 p.m.—From the Studio: Rev. H. R. Wells will give the 11th lesson from "Cantoneses for Every One."

8 p.m.—Zampa—Overture (Herold), 35985.

Ballet Egyptian Suite (Lugini), Concert Orchestra, 35794.

Gold and Silver Waltz (Lehar), International Concert Orch., 35916.

The Desert Song Vocal Gems Romberg, Light Opera Company, 1331.

Love Lies—Selection (Mayer), Five O'Clock Girl—Selection, New Mayfair Orchestra, 1658.

Lido Lady—Selection, Sassy Orpheans, 1310.

Dear Love—Vocal Gems, Light Opera Company, 1809.

9 p.m.—Weather Report, Local Time and Press News.

Clowns in Clover—Selection, New Mayfair Orchestra, 1456.

Charming, Victor Salon Orchestra, 20924.

Me and My Shadow, Sad 'N' Blue, Eddie Peabody and His Banjo, 20999.

Joe Murgatroyd Says (John Henry), A Certain Lecture, John Henry and Blossom—Humorous, 2120.

Ramona, Girl of My Dreams, Gene Austin—Tenor, 21334.

We're Living at the Clusters, So Tired, Gracie Fields—Comedienne, 2739.

Cohen at the Telephone, Julius Tannen—Hebrew Monologue, 20921.

Oh Man River, Oh Lucindy, The Revellers—Male Voices, 21241.

10 p.m. (approx), 1st Act "Rigoletto" (Verdi)—The records of this opera have been kindly loaned by a listener.

10.30 p.m.—Close down.

## A SOVIET APPOINTMENT.

Moscow, Yesterday. M. Rinko, the Assistant Commissar of Agriculture, has been appointed Commissar of Finance, replacing M. Brukhanov.

No official explanation is given for the change.—Reuter.

Lady Violet Astor will preside at the annual dinner in aid of pensions for printers' readers, at the Holborn Restaurant, London, on Saturday, October 18.

The story is the oddest in stage history. Without a woman in it, it has a compelling dramatic quality that makes it grip audiences. It has a love interest manifested only conversationally in dialogue between male characters regarding a girl who is never seen.

Besides Colin Clive, the cast includes Ian Maclaren, David Mannes, Anthony Bushell, Billy Bevan, Charles Gerrard, Thomas Whiteley, Jack Pitts, and Warner Klinger.

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# The China Mail

Monday, October 20, 1930.  
Eighth Moon, 20th Day.

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### QUIET WELCOME FOR KINGSFORD-SMITH.

Lieut. Hill Behaves Like a Sportsman.

"TAKE MY BOAT."

Port Darwin, Yesterday.  
Captain Kingsford-Smith's time was 10 days, two hours, 10 minutes, thus Hinkler's record, which has stood for nearly three years, has been shattered.  
Smith from the cockpit of his plane, returned the greetings of the Government and civic authorities, climbed out, and asked for a cigarette. He declined the offer of a whisky soda, as he "preferred flying on water."

The greetings were brief and Smith then drove off to the town for a wash and dinner, and returned to overhaul his machine, as he is leaving for Sydney at six to-morrow morning.

He said that he had encountered a strong wind at the last lap and had to allow for a variation of five degrees. He declared that the whole flight was the best he had ever done, for he averaged 110 miles an hour.

Tribute to Hill.

Later.  
A striking tribute was paid to the unlucky Hill by Kingsford-Smith, who said he was genuinely grieved that Hill had crashed. He said that Hill had achieved something wonderful, and had to do night flying, and battle against storms and other odds, which he fortunately missed.

Captain Smith explained that as he was approaching Attambua he saw Hill's machine smashed, but Hill greeted him, smilingly and asked him whether he had a collapsible boat. "No," replied Smith.

"Well, take mine," rejoined Hill. "I shan't need it now."

Smith accepted the offer, but had to turn away to hide his emotion.

Sydney, Yesterday.

Kingsford-Smith landed at Darwin at 2.36 p.m.

Message from King.

London, Yesterday.  
A telegram has been despatched from Sandringham requesting the Acting Governor of Australia to congratulate Capt. Kingsford-Smith on behalf of His Majesty.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Lord Amulree cabled their congratulations.—Reuter.

Hinkler Far Behind.

Rugby, Yesterday.  
Wing-Commander Kingsford-Smith landed in Port Darwin today, completing on the eleventh day of his flight his 10,400 miles' journey from Britain to Australia. He has thus beaten by a very large margin Bert Hinkler's re-

### AIRMAN KILLED.

MOTORING ACCIDENT ON THE BATH ROAD.

SCHNEIDER TROPHY FLIER.

Rugby, Yesterday.  
Flight Lieutenant Worsley, a member of the victorious British Schneider Trophy Team in 1927, died yesterday after a motoring accident on the Bath Road.—British Wireless Service.

cord of fifteen and half days, which has withstood many attacks upon it.

Kingsford-Smith left Croydon Aerodrome 5.35 a.m. on October 9 and by Greenwich mean time reckoning, his flight may just claim to have been completed within 10 days. He left Timor Island early this morning and landed in Port Darwin at two o'clock this afternoon local time. He received an overwhelming reception.

Fine Achievement.

His small single seater Avro Avian machine with a hundred and twenty horse power Gipsy engine, is the latest model of the same type used by Hinkler on his Australian flight. It has given him not a moment of anxiety on his long journey.

Kingsford-Smith has made possibly the most remarkable long-distance flight in the history of aviation. When he left Britain he was suffering from the effects of an operation and was advised by his doctors not to fly. In disregarding their injunction, he added another record to the many achievements to his credit, which include a flight round the Australian coast, across the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans, and a flight around the world. It is understood that he will proceed to Sydney from Port Darwin via Broken Hill.—British Wireless Service.

Smoked All The Way.

Brisbane, Yesterday.

Kingsford-Smith, in an interview, said that he smoked all day at one stage of the journey because his nerves were so frayed. He knew it was an unpardonable sin, but he took great care. The worst stage of the journey was across the Alps. He would have been thrown out but for the strap he was wearing. Now he intended to get married and hoped that the wedding would take place within three weeks, after which he would pilot Melbourne to Brisbane air liners.

Port Darwin, Later.

Kingsford-Smith left for Sydney at 6.30 a.m., and Capt. Matthews at 7 a.m.—Reuter.

### ADVENTURES OF MRS. VICTOR BRUCE.

Intrepid Aviatix Sings to Hostile Tribesmen.

RESCUED BY BRITONS.

Rugby, Yesterday.  
Details have reached Britain of the experiences of Mrs. Victor Bruce, the British air woman who recently set out in a single seater machine on a flight to Japan. She made good progress until, after leaving Bushire, she encountered a violent sandstorm. She attempted to land on what seemed hard sand, but sank into it and overturned. Baluchi tribesmen appeared on the scene and seemed hostile, but she made friends with them by interesting them in an alarm clock and by dancing and singing to them.  
After some nights in the desert, living on water and dates given by the tribesmen, she persuaded the chief to send a message to Jask 40 miles distant, and three Britons came to her help. They mended her aeroplane and Mrs. Bruce flew it to Jask with one of them, Wilson, an Imperial Airways engineer, lying along the fuselage.—British Wireless Service.

### BOUND FOR PARIS.

ARREST OF ELEVEN CHINESE STOWAWAYS.

NO TICKETS OR PASSPORTS.

Marseilles, Yesterday.  
Eleven Chinese stowaways who arrived from Shanghai aboard the steamer Sphinx were arrested as they were about to embark for Paris without tickets, passports, or landing permits.—Reuter.

[The Sphinx is an 11,375 tons steamer, owned by the Messageries Maritimes.]

### PROF. EINSTEIN.

LONDON HONOUR TO FAMOUS GERMAN.

SPEECH BY "G.B.S."

Rugby, Yesterday.  
Professor Einstein, the author of the famous theory of Relativity, is to be entertained in London on October 28, at a dinner over which Lord Rothschild will preside. Many distinguished men will be present, and Mr. George Bernard Shaw's speech, proposing Einstein's health, and the latter's reply, will be broadcast.—British Wireless Service.

## AMUSEMENTS

AT THE **QUEEN'S** TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW  
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20.



BUSTER KEATON

Talks and Sings!

See and Hear

WILLIAM HAINES

ANITA PAGE

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Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer ALL TALKING MOVIES  
with LAWRENCE GRAY BENNY RUBIN

HEAR "I'M FOLLOWING YOU," "HOOSIER HOP," "I'M SAILING ON A SUNBEAM."  
SEE The TECHNICOLOR SEQUENCES  
Put this down as one of the triumphs of the screen which talks! All the genius of the famous Duncan Sisters for laughter, song and dance are in this mad, merry melange—a perfect musical romance!

## AL JOLSON "The Singing Fool"

AT THE **WORLD** TO-DAY & TO-MORROW  
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.20  
Interpreter at all Performances.



**"The LADY OF THE HAREM"**

with

ERNEST TORRENCE

GRETA NISSEN

WILLIAM COLLIER JR.

FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY AT 5.30 & 9.20

AT THE **STAR**

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HER husband. His best friend. His younger brother. She loved and laughed at them all in turn. All who met her knew her as

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with SACLANOVA CLIVE BROOK NEIL HAMILTON

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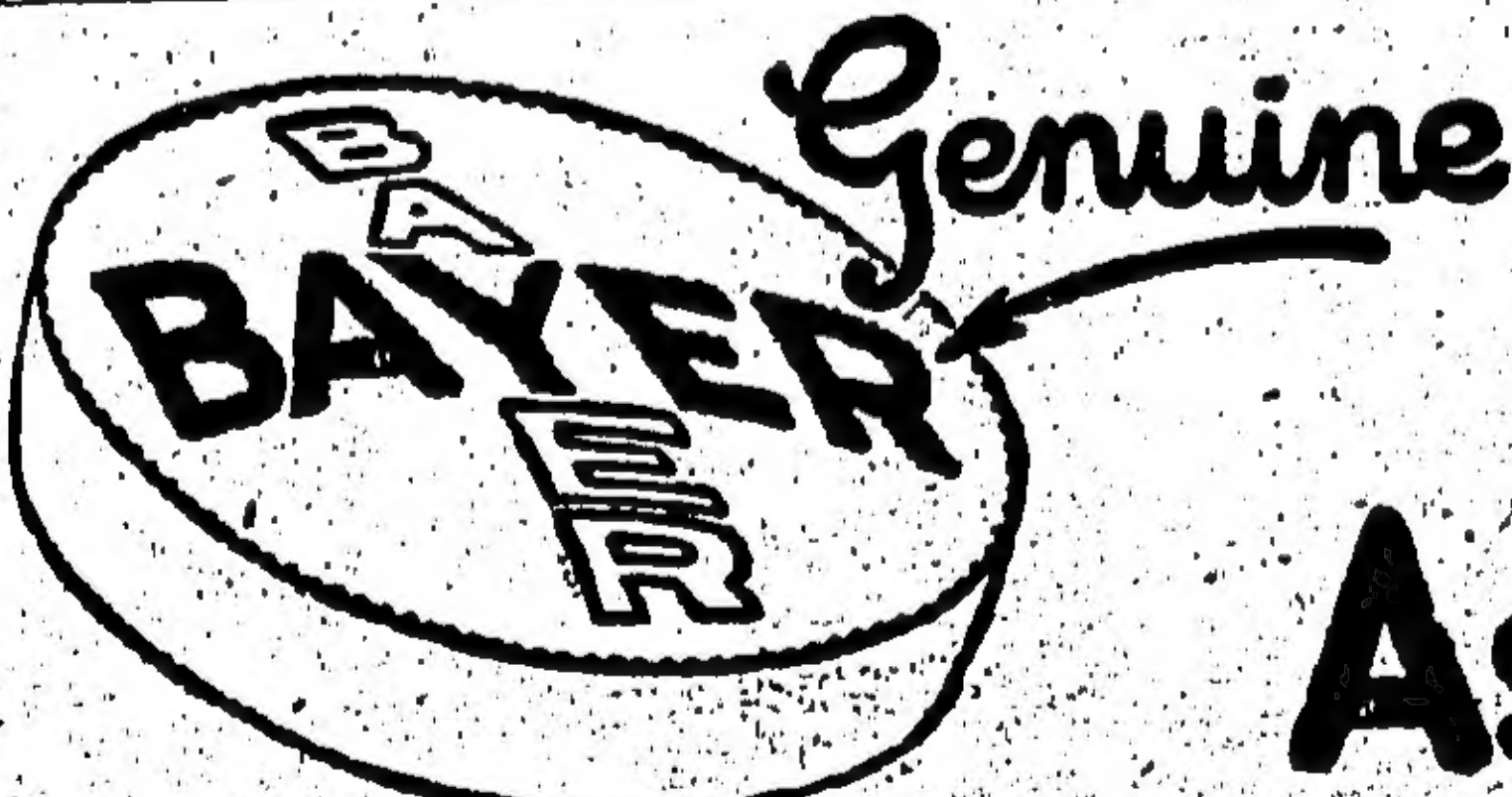
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